



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BARKER - KARPIS GANG  
SUMMARY

PART # 1 of 1

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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November 19, 1936

THE KIDNAPING OF EDWARD GEORGE BREWER,  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

History and Early Association of the  
Karpis-Barker Gang Prior to the Ab-  
duction of Mr. Bremer.

The citizens of the southwestern part of the United States had, for a number of years, known and feared many notorious criminals who lived by means outside of the law, outlaws who plundered throughout the States of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas. Another outlaw band had its origin in the Ozark Mountains of Missouri and Arkansas and the Cookson Hills of Oklahoma, which was later to be publicized as the notorious Karpis-Barker Gang, which except for its mobility and modern equipment of machine guns and fast automobiles was made up of typical southeastern bandits. The nucleus of this ruthless band of criminals was the Barkers.

The mother of the Barker brothers, Herman, Lloyd, Fred and Arthur, was Arizona Barker, commonly known as Kate Barker and many of her friends called her Arrie Barker, but to her sons and their associates she was affectionately known as "Ma" or "Mother". Kate Barker was born in the vicinity of Ash Grove, Missouri, known as the Ozark country, of Scotch-Irish parents, but it is also said that she had some Indian blood in her veins. She was of an ordinary family and during her early life it appears that she was reared in the vicinity of the place of her birth. On September 14, 1892, as Arrie Clark, Kate was married to George E. Barker, at Ash Grove, Missouri and their early married life was spent at Aurora, Missouri, where their sons were born. About 1903 or 1904 the family moved from Aurora to Webb City, Missouri, where Herman and Lloyd, the elder sons, attended graded schools, and by the time Herman Barker had completed his graded school education, the family moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma. Kate Barker's sons as early as 1915 encountered difficulty in being law-abiding citizens, as evidenced by the arrest of Herman Barker on March 5, 1915 at Joplin, Missouri on a charge of highway robbery. Fred and Arthur associated with other boys in the vicinity of Old Lincoln Forsythe School, Tulsa, Oklahoma and entered in games and played with the boys around the section known as Central Park. Many of the boys who associated with the sons of Kate Barker later became associates of these boys in their later lives and entered in criminal activity with them. Harry Campbell and Volney Davis matured and grew up with the son of Kate Barker and in later years they collectively engaged in lives of crime. Harry Campbell and Volney Davis became prominent members of the Karpis-Barker gang.

Ma Barker in the formative period of her sons' lives was probably just an average mother of a family which had no aspirations or ambitions.

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no desire to maintain any high plane socially. They were poor and existed through no prolific support from Ma's husband, George Barker, who was more or less a shiftless individual, but who later profited from the criminal earnings of his wife and sons, but he did not put himself into such a position that he could be later termed a member of the gang. During the time his wife and sons, with other members of their gang, were roving the country perpetrating bank robberies and kidnappings, George Barker was content to remain in the vicinity of Joplin, Missouri and operate a small filling station until such time as he was to share in the estate of his deceased wife and his deceased son Fred Barker.

The early religious training of the Barkers, as is the case in families of this particular section, was influenced by evangelistic and sporadic revivals. The parents of the Barkers and the other boys with whom they were associated did not reflect any special interest in educational training and as a result their sons were more or less illiterate. Several years prior to Kate Barker's separation from George Barker, which occurred approximately in the year 1928, and which was subsequent to the time that Herman, Lloyd and Arthur received prison sentences, it is possible that Kate became loose in her moral life. She was seen with a neighbor of hers who was having outside dates with other men and was known to have been generally in the company of other men in the vicinity of Tulsa, Oklahoma. This led to Kate's separation from her husband. She lived with her sons at such periods when they were released from their penitentiary sentences and cast her lot with their lawlessness and criminal activities. Inasmuch as she was more intelligent than any of her sons, she ruled them with an iron will and found this expression of dominance easily exerted because of the submission of her sons Fred and Arthur.

Ma Barker liked to live well. She purchased expensive clothing, furniture and other necessities from the spoils of her sons' depredations. Ma Barker was very jealous of her boys and did not wish to have them associate with girl friends. She would disclose the conversations had with various women members of the gang to her sons, particularly stressing the women's statements with reference to them. This procedure on her part caused frequent evidence of dissension among the other women of the gang who, in most instances made every effort to avoid the presence of Ma Barker.

Although Kate Barker gave most of her attention to her boys, she had a paramour, one Arthur E. Dunlop, alias George Anderson, believed to have had a hand in his fate as a result of his association with Kate Barker. Dunlop late in the year 1931 rented a cottage one and one-half miles from Thayer, Missouri, and

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he lived with the Barker and the Barker at this time was joined by her son Fred, who had been released from the Kansas State Penitentiary on March 26, 1931.

During the time that Fred Barker was in the penitentiary, where he had served a sentence for burglary, he became acquainted with Alvin Karpis, alias "Old Creepy", the alias. Alvin Karpis, like the Barker brothers, was from a poor and uneducated family. The parents of Alvin Karpis are Mr. and Mrs. John Karpavics, who migrated to the United States from Lithuania. Upon first arriving in America, Mr. and Mrs. Karpavics lived in New York City and thence moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan and then to Montreal, Canada, where they remained for two years. It was at Montreal, Canada that Alvin Karpis was born on August 10, 1907. He was christened Francis Alvin Karpavics. When Alvin Karpis was two years of age, his family moved to Topeka, Kansas, where the family remained until 1923, after which they moved to Chicago, Illinois. Karpis shortly thereafter had an examination by a physician which disclosed that he had leakage of the heart and he was advised to take an extended vacation. Alvin then went to live with his sister, Mrs. Bert Crooks, at 1234 Monroe Street, Topeka, Kansas. It was at Topeka, Kansas that Alvin Karpis began an active criminal career, which was to last him eventually to the Barker at Thayer, Missouri.

Karpis in 1926 became involved in a burglary and was sentenced to serve ten years in the State Industrial Reformatory at Hutchinson, Kansas, where he was received on February 16, 1926. At the Reformatory Karpis was assigned as a baker's helper. This required long hours of work from early morning, seven days a week, which was not in accordance with the desires of Karpis and as a result he violated many rules of the Institution and served many days in solitary confinement. His mind was not idle while he was in solitary confinement and he planned ways of escape upon being released from "solitary". He plotted with another inmate, Charles Carroll, to escape and these two individuals were successful in escaping from the Institution on March 5, 1929. Karpis immediately rejoined his parents in Chicago, Illinois. The parents, while appearing to be law-abiding citizens, refrained from notifying the Kansas State authorities of the location of Alvin Karpis. They justified their position in this matter by the fact that it appeared Alvin Karpis was endeavoring to lead a law-abiding life and found employment with various bakers in Chicago, Illinois and also secured employment with a concern which sold medical equipment.

While on escape and while living with his parents, Karpis was joined by Larry Jo Vol and Karpis turned away from his lawful pursuits and drifted to Kansas City, Missouri with Jo Vol, where they were arrested on March 23, 1930 on the charge of auto in a car and safe blowing. Karpis at this time had begun the use of aliases and at the time of his arrest gave his name as Harold

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Hadley. Karpis was not prosecuted on the charge of stealing the automobile, but on March 15, 1930 he was returned to the Reformatory at Hutchinson, Kansas as an escapee. Due to the record which he had made for himself at the Reformatory, he was transferred to the Kansas State Penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas on May 19, 1930.

While in the Kansas State Penitentiary, the friendship between Alvin Karpis and Fred Barker was formed. Karpis was assigned to work in the coal mines at the Kansas State Penitentiary and while engaged in this occupation Karpis arranged with other prisoners to buy their "pay coal", in order to hasten his release from the penitentiary. The prisoners were required to dig a certain quantity of coal each day and for each ton mined over the required assignment, the prisoner was given good time and by his own efforts and the efforts of those whose "pay coal" Karpis purchased, Karpis was released from the penitentiary on May 31, 1931. After his release, Karpis proceeded to Tulsa, Oklahoma and there joined, by prearrangement, Fred Barker. The following month, on June 10, 1931, Karpis was arrested by the Police Department at Tulsa as George Haller on investigation for burglary. Fred Barker was also arrested on this charge, which grew out of the theft of some jewelry. On September 10, 1931 Karpis, after entering a plea of guilty, was sentenced to serve four years in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary on a charge of burglary, but as restitution had been made the court paroled him. Fred Barker likewise escaped serving a penitentiary sentence for this offense and he, with Karpis, proceeded to Thayer, Missouri.

On December 18, 1931 Alvin Karpis and Fred Barker robbed a store in West Plains, Missouri, using a 1931 model De Soto automobile in the perpetration of this robbery. On December 19, 1931 Alvin Karpis and Fred Barker drove into the Davidson Motor Company garage in West Plains, Missouri in the DeSoto car which was recognized as being identical with the car used in the store robbery the day previous. Sheriff C. R. Kelly proceeded to the garage to conduct an investigation concerning the car and as he walked toward it to question the occupants thereof concerning the robbery, he was fired upon by them and subsequently died as a result of the wounds sustained. After the murder the police raided Dunlop's cottage at Thayer, Missouri on a report that suspicious persons were living there. They found in the cottage at Thayer, Missouri all the merchandise which had been stolen from the store at West Plains, Missouri, with the exception of some fifty tires. The raiders after the murder found the cottage at Thayer, Missouri had been abandoned hurriedly. Alvin Karpis and Fred Barker were positively identified as being the slayers of the popular sheriff. Dunlop, Kate Barker, Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis had fled from the cottage to the home of Herbert Farmer near Joplin, Missouri and upon Farmer's advice and instructions they proceeded to St. Paul, Minnesota. Herbert Farmer had been a close friend of the Barker family for many years and he was particularly friendly with Fred Barker, who spent much

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of his early life in association with Herbert Farmer, who had an extensive criminal record and it is safe to assume that Fred Barker received considerable education in the school of crime from Farmer.

The murder of Sheriff Kelly caused the flight of another criminal from the vicinity of Thayer, Missouri to St. Paul. This individual, who was later to be prominently identified with the Karpis-Barker gang was Phoenix Donald, commonly known as William Beaver, who had been paroled from the Oklahoma State Penitentiary on June 20, 1931, where he had previously been sentenced to serve a term of life imprisonment on the charge of murder. Beaver felt that his flight to St. Paul was necessary, in order to avoid becoming involved in further difficulties, in view of the fact that the automobile which had been used by Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis at the time of the murder of Sheriff Kelly had been abandoned by Karpis and Fred Barker near the home occupied by William Beaver at Thayer, Missouri.

William Beaver, in addition to his other aliases, was also known as "Lapland Billie" to his associates, due to Beaver having been reared in that part of Arkansas adjacent to Missouri known as "Lapland". He began his criminal career in July, 1918, when he was arrested for vagrancy by the Police Department at Joplin, Missouri. He also was arrested on May 26, 1922 by Special Agents of the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway at Sapulpa, Oklahoma on a charge of auto theft, but was not prosecuted on this charge. Beaver was next involved with the law at Garden City, Kansas in July of that same year when he was arrested by the Sheriff's Office at Garden City, Kansas for attempting to assist in a jail delivery, but likewise was not prosecuted on this charge. Beaver, as Phoenix Donald, on April 7, 1925 was received at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary to serve a life term for murder, which crime Beaver committed while attempting to escape after committing a bank robbery in the State of Oklahoma. In this attempted escape, he killed a member of the posse which was pursuing him and it was from this sentence he was paroled in 1931.

While in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary, William Beaver became acquainted with Ma Barker's son, Arthur, commonly known as "Doc", who had been received at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary on February 10, 1922 for the murder of James J. Sherrill, a night watchman at Tulsa, Oklahoma on August 26, 1921. Beaver at the penitentiary also became acquainted with Volney Davis, who had been convicted with "Doc" Barker for the murder of the night watchman during a commission of a burglary. Volney Davis was received at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary to serve a life term for this murder on February 5, 1923, but succeeded in escaping from that Institution on January 8, 1925, but thirteen days later he was apprehended at Kansas City, Missouri and returned to the Penitentiary.

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When Kate Barker, A. L. Dunlop, commonly known as "Old Man" Dunlop, Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis sought refuge in St. Paul, Minnesota they rented a house at 1031 South Roberts Street, West St. Paul, Minnesota. The fugitives who were then being sought by the various state law enforcement authorities, did not lead normal lives at the Roberts Street address and this aroused the suspicions of the woman from whom the house was rented. The landlady observed that the occupants when leaving the house and returning to it, carried a violin case. The woman's son noticed the photographs of Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis in a detective magazine, which indicated that they were wanted for the murder of Sheriff Kelly at East Plains, Missouri. On April 25, 1932 at about 1:0 A.M., the suspicious activities of the occupants of this house were related to officers of the St. Paul Police Department, who delayed going to the house in question in order to apprehend these people. Approximately six hours later, Fred Barker, Alvin Karpis, Kate Barker and A. L. Dunlop had packed their belongings and hurriedly departed. The following morning the body of A. L. Dunlop was found on the shores of Lake Mendota, near Webster, Wisconsin. It was stripped of clothing and an examination of the body disclosed that it had been shot three times at short range. Not far from the body there was found a bloodstained woman's glove. It is contended that Dunlop was killed by Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis, inasmuch as they believed he had tipped them off to the police.

At St. Paul, Minnesota, Fred Barker, Alvin Karpis and Ma Barker became acquainted with Harry Sawyer, whose correct name is Harry Sandlovick, the "Kingpin and Fixer for the underworld in St. Paul". Harry Sawyer was born in Russia, immigrated to this country and settled in Lincoln, Nebraska, later moving to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he went into partnership with a notorious underworld character, Ben Hogan. This contact for Karpis and Fred Barker was made for them through Herbert Farmer and it was because Herbert Farmer knew Harry Sawyer could afford protection to wanted individuals that he instructed Karpis and Fred Barker to proceed to St. Paul.

Kate Barker and her son, Fred, with Alvin Karpis, found it necessary to temporarily leave St. Paul, Minnesota and find another refuge due to the investigation by law enforcement agencies of the murder of "Old Man" Dunlop. These fugitives proceeded to Kansas City, Missouri, where under the disguise of being respectable citizens, they established a residence in an exclusive residential district known as the Country Club Plaza. Alvin Karpis posed as the son of Kate Barker and Ma frequently referred to her "sons" as being in the "insurance business". At Kansas City, Missouri, Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis threw in their lot with other "hoodlums". These latter individuals were Francis Keating and Thomas Holden, escaped Federal prisoners from the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, Harvey Bailey, a national

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known bank robber and Larry DeVol, a friend of Karpis, with whom he was arrested in Kansas City, Missouri prior to his return to the Kansas State Industrial Reformatory at Hutchinson, Kansas. Also with this gang was Bernard Phillips, a policeman who had turned to the profession of bank robbery. The entire mob was residing in close proximity to each other in Kansas City, Missouri and planned new depredations. Kansas City was used as the hide-out. On June 17, 1932 Fred Barker, Keating, Holden, Bailey, DeVol, Karpis and Phillips made a raid on a Fort Scott, Kansas bank, after which they returned to Kansas City, Missouri and split the loot in the apartment occupied by Fred Barker, Ma Barker and Alvin Karpis, located at 4804 Jefferson Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

On the date of the robbery of the bank at Fort Scott, Kansas, another criminal who was to join the Karpis-Barker gang was released from the Kansas State Penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas. While in the penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas, Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis became acquainted with Jess Doyle, who had been received at that Institution on March 19, 1927 to serve a five to ten year sentence for second degree burglary and grand larceny. Doyle had served a previous sentence in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary for the larceny of an automobile. He had been received at that Institution on April 21, 1921 and was released at the expiration of his term on July 28, 1926 and less than a year later, Doyle found himself in the State Penitentiary at Lansing, Kansas. Prior to the release of Fred Barker, he made arrangements with Jess Doyle to meet the latter in Kansas City, Missouri at the expiration of Doyle's term, which was on June 17, 1932. In accordance with this arrangement, Jess Doyle immediately proceeded to Kansas City, Missouri after his release and met Fred Barker in front of the Majestic Hotel. Fred Barker was well supplied with money at this time and from the spoils of the Fort Scott bank Fred gave Doyle four or five hundred dollars for clothes and other expenses. At Barker's apartment that night a celebration was held to celebrate the successful robbery of the bank and the release of Jess Doyle from the penitentiary. Those who attended this party in Fred Barker's apartment were Francis Keating, Thomas Holden, Harvey Bailey, Larry DeVol, Alvin Karpis and Bernard Phillips.

Kate Barker, with her son Fred and Karpis lived at the Longfellow Apartments in Kansas City, Missouri from May 12, 1932 until July 5, 1932, on which latter date they moved from this apartment as a safety measure, and began living at an apartment at 414 West 46th Terrace in Kansas City, Missouri under the name of Mrs. A. F. Hunter and "sons". Ma Barker was the housekeeper for Fred and Karpis and for a few days they enjoyed the homelike atmosphere which Ma Barker endeavored to create. Larry DeVol was also living in the same apartment building in which Ma Barker lived. This tranquillity, however, was disturbed on July 7, 1932 by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, who had been for some time endeavoring to cause the apprehension of Francis Keating and Thomas Holden to return them to Leaven-

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worth to complete the sentences which they were serving for mail robbery. Special Agents had learned that Keating and Holden were golf enthusiasts and a Special Agent in checking the golf courses in Kansas City, Missouri located Keating, Holden and Harvey Bailey playing golf on the Old Mission Golf Course on July 7, 1932. Holden and Keating were apprehended on that date and returned to the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. Harvey Bailey was found to have a liberty bond in his possession which had been stolen from the Fort Scott, Kansas Bank. He was removed to Fort Scott, Kansas by state authorities and identified as one of the participants in the robbery of the bank at that place on June 17, 1932 and was later convicted and received a ten to fifty year sentence to be served in the Kansas State Penitentiary. The fourth member of the foursome who had been playing golf with Holden, Keating and Bailey on the Old Mission Golf Course that day was Bernard Phillips, who by chance was not with the other three men at the time of their apprehension, which occurred at about 5:00 in the afternoon. Phillips apparently carried this disturbing news to other members of the gang, for it was learned that Kate Barker and her son Fred, with Alvin Karpis, hurriedly departed from their apartment about 5:30 P.M. on the same date that the arrests took place, leaving a fully cooked meal on the table. The condition of the apartment when later examined by Special Agents, clearly indicated that the fugitives had made a rapid departure.

From Kansas City, Missouri, Fred Barker, Kate Barker, Alvin Karpis, Bernard Phillips and Jess Doyle fled to St. Paul, Minnesota and later, on July 9, 1932, rented a cottage at Mabtonedi, a summer resort on White Bear Lake, Minnesota. While living in the vicinity of St. Paul, the mob relaxed by frequenting the saloon operated by Harry Sawyer at 545 Babasha Street and also found entertainment at the Hollyhocks, a night club operated by John (Jack) Peifer, who later committed suicide after he was convicted and sentenced on July 31, 1936 to serve thirty years' imprisonment for participating in the kidnaping of William A. Hamm, Jr., a wealthy St. Paul brewer.

It is reported that around the period Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis were living at White Bear Lake, Minnesota, they were associated with a criminal attorney, one J. Earl Smith of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and subsequent to the robbery of the Fort Scott bank at Fort Scott, Kansas and the apprehension of Harvey Bailey, Smith was retained to defend Bailey at his trial. After Bailey was convicted and sentenced, Smith received a mysterious telephone call on the morning of August 13, 1932 and the next morning Smith's body was found bullet riddled at the Indian Hills Country Club, fourteen miles north of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Earl Christman, a confidence man who was a fugitive from the Indiana State Penitentiary, with his moll, Helen Ferguson, sought refuge in St. Paul

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and through Harry Sawyer, Earl Christman and Helen Ferguson became acquainted with Alvin Karpis, Fred Barker and other members of the gang who at that time were frequenting St. Paul, Minnesota. The associates of the gang at this time included Frank Nash, also an escape from the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas and Nash, like Fred Barker, was an intimate friend of Herbert Farmer of Joplin, Missouri. On July 26, 1932 Karpis and Fred Barker, with their augmented gang, left their hide-out at White Bear Lake, Minnesota and staged a daring daylight robbery of the Cloud County Bank at Concordia, Kansas, securing approximately \$240,000 in bonds and an indefinite amount of cash and after a successful escape returned to their hide-out at White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

At this period of time, Arthur "Doc" Barker was confined in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary and negotiations were under way looking towards the release of "Doc" Barker from the Penitentiary. The Karpis-Barker gang was now becoming well organized and through the efforts of Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis, a private detective at Leavenworth, Kansas by the name of Jack Glynn was successful in securing the release of "Doc" Barker from the Penitentiary on September 10, 1932. Immediately after the release of "Doc" Barker from the Penitentiary, he went to visit his father at Neosho, Missouri, as the condition of his parole was that he should leave the State of Oklahoma and never return. After a short visit with his father, "Doc" Barker joined his mother and brother Fred in St. Paul, Minnesota. Ma Barker now had two sons to provide her with a life of luxury. Her eldest son, Herman Barker, after an extensive criminal career beginning on March 5, 1915 by an arrest by the Police Department of Joplin, Missouri for a highway robbery and followed by several other arrests on various charges, was cornered by police officers at Bichita, Kansas on August 29, 1927 after he had killed a police officer. Herman Barker committed suicide rather than submit to arrest. Lloyd Barker was also prevented from becoming a member of the gang due to his incarceration in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, where he had been received on January 16, 1932 to serve a twenty-five year sentence for robbing the United States Mail. Efforts on the part of Fred Barker and other members of the gang to secure the release of Lloyd Barker on parole were not successful.

Efforts, however, to secure the release of Volney Davis from the Oklahoma State Penitentiary were successful and on November 5, 1932, less than two months after the release of his fellow murderer, "Doc" Barker, Davis was granted a leave of absence from the Oklahoma State Penitentiary, which leave of absence was to permit Volney Davis to roam the country at will until July 1, 1934, when he was to again report to the Penitentiary officials, which he failed to do. The reunion between Volney Davis and "Doc" Barker took place at Leavenworth, Kansas, after which they immediately proceeded to St. Paul, Minnesota. Shortly thereafter, Volney Davis took a vacation and with Kate Barker made a trip to California where they visited the latter's sister. Fred

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November 1932 to December 1932, Fred Barker, "Doc" Barker, Alvin Karpis and Jess Doyle were residing at the Twin Oaks Apartment in St. Paul, Minnesota. Larry DeVol also was in St. Paul, Minnesota at this time and was residing in an apartment on Grand Avenue. The citizens of the Minnesota Twin Cities and vicinity until this time had been unmolested so far as known from the depredations of the Karpis-Barker mob, but the gang planned new crimes and the immunity which had been enjoyed by the citizens in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota was to soon cease, for on December 16, 1932 Fred Barker, "Doc" Barker, Larry DeVol, Alvin Karpis, William Beaver, Verne Miller and Jess Doyle robbed the Third Northwestern Bank of Minneapolis at Minneapolis, Minnesota and during the perpetration of the robbery, two police officers and a civilian were murdered by machine gun bullets fired by members of this gang. The civilian was murdered because the robbers believed he was endeavoring to secure the license number of the gang's getaway car. Five days later, Larry DeVol was arrested in an apartment house and there was found some sixteen to seventeen thousand dollars in his possession which was identified as part of the loot of the Third Northwestern Bank robbery. He pleaded guilty to a charge of murder and was sentenced to serve life imprisonment in the Minnesota State Penitentiary at Stillwater, Minnesota. Immediately after the arrest of Larry DeVol, the mob was carried to the other members of the gang by Harry Hull and a rapid exit was made from the Twin Cities by Fred Barker, "Doc" Barker, Alvin Karpis, Jess Doyle, William Beaver and Harry Hull, their destination being Reno, Nevada. At Reno they joined Earl Christman and Helen Ferguson, Kate Barker and Volney Davis who had returned from their vacation in California and were in Reno, Nevada at the time other members of the gang arrived there.

Prior to the conviction of Volney Davis for murder in the State of Oklahoma he had known and associated with Edna Murray. In tracing the history of Edna Murray, it was learned that she was born in Marion, Kansas on May 26, 1898, the daughter of H. D. and Luella Stanley. When Edna was still a small child, she moved with her father to Cardin, Oklahoma. Edna had one sister, Doris, later to become known as Doris O'Connor and three brothers, Matt, Floyd and Harry. The family's income was derived from the rent of miners' shanties which were owned by Edna's father near Cardin, Oklahoma. Edna Murray at the age of twenty-three was working as a waitress and cashier at the Imperial Cafe in Sapulpa, Oklahoma and it was here that she first became the sweetheart of Volney Davis. After Davis was sentenced to life imprisonment, Edna Murray left her employment in Sapulpa, Oklahoma and sought other means of livelihood in Kansas City, Missouri. Here she met Fred Sullivan, alias "Diamond Joe", a jewel thief, and it is said that Edna Murray married this man. Edna had twice before been married. Her first husband's name was Patton and by this marriage she had one son, Preston. Her second husband was Walter Price. Edna after meeting Sullivan continued to live with him until in the year 1934 when Sullivan was convicted of murder.

and subsequently electrocuted at Little Rock, Arkansas. Jack Murray, a Kansas City, Missouri bootlegger, was Edna Murray's next man and with Murray Edna engaged in the illicit traffic of liquor, assisting Murray in transporting the same from New Orleans, Louisiana to Kansas City, Missouri. These activities on the part of Edna Murray continued until the night of April 6, 1925, when she and Jack Murray were arrested and charged with the holdup of one H. B. Southward at Kansas City, Missouri and for this crime Edna and Jack Murray were convicted at Kansas City, Missouri on October 1, 1925 and each sentenced to serve a twenty-five year sentence in the Missouri State Penitentiary. From the alleged activities of Edna Murray during this holdup, the press gave her the sobriquet of the "Flapper Bandit" or the "Kissing Bandit".

Edna Murray was confined in the Missouri State Penitentiary on December 3, 1925 and soon acquired another nickname - "Babbits", due to her agility in escaping from that Institution on May 2, 1927. After this escape, Edna remained at liberty until she was arrested in Chicago, Illinois and returned to the Missouri State Penitentiary on September 10, 1931. Upon her return, Edna immediately began to plot another escape and on November 4, 1931 she again succeeded in escaping, but on this occasion her freedom was short-lived, as she was located and taken into custody the following day. Edna upon being returned to the Penitentiary at this time was placed in an individual cell, but she succeeded in conspiring with another inmate, Irene McCann, to escape the third time. Edna Murray and Irene McCann succeeded in sawing the bars of their cells and escaped on December 13, 1932. She immediately proceeded to Kansas City, Missouri and in some manner, Volney Davis, who was then in Reno, Nevada with other members of the gang, learned of the escape of Edna and proceeded to Kansas City, Missouri, where he met the woman who was to continue to live with him as his paramour and share in the loot of the notorious Karpis-Barker gang. Edna and Volney then joined the others in Reno, Nevada.

While in Reno, Nevada, dissension arose between Harry Hull and other members of the gang, as Hull had not believed in the time honored axiom "honor among thieves" and had stolen \$250.00 and some clothes from Jess Doyle. Doyle anticipated that Hull would go to Kansas City, Missouri and he, with "Doc" Barker, set out by plane for that city in an effort to locate Hull and kill him. Their efforts in this regard, however, were unsuccessful.

Early in February 1933 found the members of the gang back in St. Paul, Minnesota, where they remained until March 4, 1933, when some member of the gang received information that the police were going to raid an apartment in which some members of the mob resided. The next refuge for this band of criminals was Chicago, Illinois and its suburbs. During March, 1933 they found refuge in various apartments in Oak Park, Illinois and found their entertainment at a roadhouse operated by Louis Cernocky at Fox River Grove, Illinois, which place had long been a rendezvous for such notorious criminals

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as Francis Keating, Thomas Holden and Frank Nash. They also found entertainment and refuge at the O. P. Inn, Maywood, Illinois, operated by Louis "Doc" Stacci, who had long been a known associate of criminals. At Chicago, Illinois the robbery of a bank at Fairbury, Nebraska was planned and on April 4, 1933 the Fairbury National Bank, Fairbury, Nebraska, was held up by Fred Barker, Volney Davis, Frank Nash, "Doc" Barker, Alvin Karpis, Earl Christman, Jess Doyle and Edward Green, commonly known as Eddie Green, an ex-convict who had joined members of the Karpis-Barker gang in St. Paul, Minnesota. Green was an accomplished bank robber and due to the close friendship between Harry Sawyer and Eddie Green, Green made numerous acquaintances with "hoodlums" who were making St. Paul their haven, including the Karpis-Barker gang. He became the close confidant of Volney Davis, Alvin Karpis, Fred Barker and "Doc" Barker. During the robbery in Fairbury, Nebraska, Earl Christman was severely wounded. He was immediately rushed to the home of Vernon C. Miller at 6612 Edgevale Road, Kansas City, Missouri. The home of Miller was at that time considered a safe refuge for gangsters of the middle west. It was later destined to be highly publicized as a rendezvous for Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd and Adam Richetti, who gathered in Miller's home on the night of June 16, 1933 to formulate their plans for the unlawful delivery of Frank Nash, who was apprehended by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Hot Springs, Arkansas on June 16, 1933. An attempt was made by Miller, Floyd and Richetti to free Frank Nash as Special Agents and police officers emerged from the Union Station in Kansas City, Missouri on June 17, 1933. The attempt was bungled and instead of freeing Nash, he was the first to die in the blast of machine gun fire aimed at the officers by Miller and his associates. Special Agent Raymond J. Caffery, Chief of Police Otto Reed, of McAlester, Oklahoma, and William J. Grooms and Frank Harmonson, Detectives of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department, died as a result of this attempted delivery. Herbert Farmer and Louis "Doc" Stacci, harborers and confidants of the Karpis-Barker gang, were subsequently convicted in Federal Court at Kansas City, Missouri for conspiracy to deliver Frank Nash from the officers and each was sentenced to serve two years in a Federal Penitentiary and pay a fine of \$10,000. At the time Christman was being held in Verne Miller's home in Kansas City, Missouri, the associates of Christman frantically sought the assistance of an underworld physician who was called upon to administer to the wounded Earl Christman. Christman, however, did not respond to this treatment and within a few days died and was buried in an unidentified grave.

The day following the robbery of the Fairbury National Bank, Fred Barker expressed his desire for a woman companion. He thought of a woman by the name of Paula Harmon, whom he had previously met at the home of his friend, Herbert Farmer, Joplin, Missouri. In accordance with Fred Barker's wishes, Vivian M. [unclear]

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the parsonage of Vernon Miller, telephoned Paula Harmon and asked her to visit Kansas City. Paula accepted this invitation and thereafter met Fred Barker at Vivian Lattie's home. Paula Harmon was the widow of a notorious bank robber, Charles Harmon, who was killed while participating in the robbery of the Kraft State Bank at Lomaxton, Wisconsin on November 19, 1931. She was a native of Georgia, having been born at Bernstein, Georgia on February 11, 1904, the daughter of Annie and Bird Bronson. When Paula was two or three years of age, her family moved to Port Arthur, Texas, where Paula later attended grade schools and it is said she attended an exclusive girls' finishing school in the south. She was first married to a man by the name of Dennis Wood at Port Arthur, Texas in the year 1921. Wood was employed as a mate on a ship and Paula's marriage to him was dissolved in the year 1922. She then secured employment as a camptometer operator in Houston, Texas and continued at this occupation until the year 1923, when she married Charles Harmon, who had just been released from the penitentiary at Huntsville, Texas after serving a term for bank robbery. She soon met the associates of her husband, Frank Nash, Vernon Miller and Herbert Farmer and it was a short time after the release of Fred Barker from the penitentiary that she first met him at Farmer's home. During the married life of Paula and Charles Harmon they quarreled frequently and during one of these quarrels, Paula separated from her husband, and operated a house of ill fame in Chicago, Illinois, for a short period of time.

Paula Harmon and Fred Barker on May 26, 1933 established a home at 246 Vernon Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota under the name of Mr. and Mrs. J. Stanley Smith. Other members of the gang established themselves in a cottage at Bald Eagle Lake, Minnesota in June of 1933.

On June 15, 1933, Mr. William A. Hamm, Jr., of the Theodore Park Brewing Company, St. Paul, Minnesota, was kidnapped by "Doe" Barker, Fred Barker, Alvin Karpis, Charles J. Fitzgerald, Bryan Bolton and Fred Goetz and transported to Bensenville, Illinois, where he was held until his family had enriched the coffers of these notorious mobsters by \$120,000, which was paid as ransom for the release of Mr. Hamm. Fred Goetz, had for a number of years known Jack Peifer and it was Peifer who originally conceived the plan to kidnap Mr. Hamm. Before aligning himself with criminals, he was a student at the Engineering School of the University of Illinois and participated as a player on the football team at that institution. Upon leaving the University of Illinois, he worked as a life guard at the Marquette Bathing Beach in Chicago, Illinois and while so employed he was arrested on June 6, 1932 by the Chicago Police Department on a charge of attempted rape of a seven year old girl. He was placed under a \$5,000 bond, which his mother furnished, but subsequently he forfeited this bond and was never apprehended to answer the charge. He thereafter became an associate of the so-called Al Capone syndicate in Chicago and was linked with such notorious characters as Fred "Killer" Burke, Ted Lowerry, Gus Malloy and Jack "Legs" Bryan. Bolton was the "stooge" of Goetz. Fred Goetz was also known as J. George Neigher and "Noot,um Neigher".

It appears that it was through the existing friendship between Peifer and members of the Karpis-Barker gang that Goetz became one of their associates. As the result of the relationship between Bryar Bolton and Goetz, he was invited to participate in the kidnaping of Mr. Hamm.

Charles J. Fitzgerald, an ex-convict with an extensive criminal record, had for a long period of time found refuge in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota, being an intimate friend of Harry Sawyer and Jack Peifer. Like Goetz and Bolton, Fitzgerald also had friends among the underworld of Chicago, Illinois.

Subsequent to the release of Mr. Hamm on June 18, 1933, the gang which had now become a syndicate of crime fled from St. Paul, Minnesota to Chicago. Ma Barker during the time that her sons Fred and "Doc" and their associates were engaged in the abduction of Mr. Hamm, was residing at 114 Home Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois, where she was in association with Helen Ferguson, the former paramour of Earl Christman. Volney Davis and Edna Murray, as Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Davis, were living in an apartment at 219 North Second Avenue, Maywood, Illinois. The entire gang rented and established themselves in other apartments in Chicago, Illinois. However, their criminal proclivities did not remain dormant, for on August 30, 1933 six bandits staged the robbery of a pay roll which was being delivered to the Stockyards National Bank at South St. Paul, Minnesota, in which \$50,000 was obtained. During the course of the robbery, two police officers were shot by machine guns fired by the robbers, one of the officers being murdered and the other as a result of the wounds sustained is expected to be an invalid for the rest of his life. At the time of the robbery, one of the officers who was shot was equipped with a Thompson submachine gun, which was taken by one of the bandits after the officer had been wounded. More than a year later, a hide-out of the Karpis-Barker gang was raided at Cleveland, Ohio and there was found a "getaway" chart, which investigation disclosed began at zero at the Stockyards National Bank, South St. Paul, Minnesota and it is believed that this was a chart used by members of the Karpis-Barker gang in effecting their escape subsequent to the pay roll robbery.

The mob moved swiftly to Chicago, Illinois and in less than a month the newspapers announced the murder of a policeman in Chicago, Illinois, which murder occurred on September 22, 1933 as police officer Miles A. Cunningham endeavored to investigate an automobile accident near the intersection of Jackson Boulevard and Halsted Street in Chicago, Illinois. Officer Cunningham did not have the information that a few moments before two bank

messengers were held up by five men at Jackson Boulevard and Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, seizing two sacks of registered mail which proved to be of no value to the bandits. In tracing the history of the Karpis-Barker gang, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation identified that mob as being responsible for the murder of Officer Cunningham.

It appears that during the year 1933, William J. Harrison became acquainted with members of the Karpis-Barker gang through Fred Goetz. Harrison originally was from St. Louis, Missouri, where he was born on September 27, 1900. He spent the major portion of his adolescent years in St. Louis. In about 1926 he went to Calumet City, Illinois, where he operated numerous speak-easies during the Prohibition era. He became acquainted with the Capone Syndicate of Chicago and fraternized with persons of such notoriety as "Killer" Burke, Gus Winkeler and "Big" Homer Wilson. Harrison was a man of wide experience and as a result of his underworld activities was able to furnish members of the Karpis-Barker group some of their most valued contacts and without whom many of their sinister designs would not have been consummated. Harrison, despite his precarious undertakings, was a man of wit and humor and served as a "court jester" or "court fool" to the amusements of his gangster affiliates.

While various members of the Karpis-Barker gang were on the rampage throughout the middle west perpetrating bank robberies and kidnapings, Harry Campbell, a boyhood associate of the Barker brothers, had been content to confine his criminal activities to the State of Oklahoma, where he was associated with Glen Leroy Wright and Charles Cotner, Oklahoma outlaws of a very desperate character who subsequently were incarcerated in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary. Very few intimate details are known of his early life. Harry Campbell was born on New Year's Day in the year 1900 at McClintocville, Pennsylvania. His family later moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he was reared and associated with the Barker boys, Volney Davis and Will Green. Green was later sentenced to serve a long term in the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, and was one of the leaders of the gang which effected its escape from that Institution in December of 1931. Green later committed suicide rather than be apprehended.

In 1933 Campbell became acquainted with Lynona Burdette, a part Cherokee Indian woman whose family was very poor. Lynona was one of more than a dozen children in the family, nine of whom are now living. In the spring of 1933 Campbell frequented Casper, Wyoming, where it is alleged he engaged in the robbing of safes, but in a short while Campbell returned to Tulsa, Oklahoma and remained in the company of Lynona Burdette until September, 1933, when he received a communication from Fred Barker to join the gang at the Savoy Hotel, Hammond, Indiana and was promised that there was "big money" to be had by cast

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his lot with his old friends. Campbell soon joined Fred Barker, "Doc" Barker, and William J. Harrison in Hammond, Indiana and at the request of Harry Campbell, Willie Harrison thereafter made arrangements for Wynona Burdette to join Campbell in the Indiana City and soon thereafter the two Barkers, Harry Campbell and Wynona Burdette drove to St. Paul, Minnesota, where they joined other members of the gang who were temporarily located there. This group on or about October 6, 1933 motored to Reno, Nevada, where the gang had good contacts with the political bosses at that place.

On or about December 2, 1933, an automobile caravan left Reno, Nevada. It was the exodus from Reno of the members of the Karpis-Barker gang. The mob moved again as they had done so often before, but as has been previously related, it was not to a new field for their criminal activities but to St. Paul, Minnesota, where the roving mob had found refuge on many prior occasions. Among those members of the gang who left Reno, Nevada in the month of December 1933 were Alvin Karpis and his moll, Dolores Delaney, sister-in-law of Pat Riley, a Dillinger mobster; Fred Barker and his paramour, "Pat Kitted" Paula Harmon, Volney Davis, Edna Murray, and "Doc" Barker. Harry Campbell and Wynona Burdette were also with Alvin Karpis and Fred Barker on the trek to St. Paul. The members of the Karpis-Barker gang, with the exception of Alvin Karpis and Dolores Delaney, arrived in St. Paul, Minnesota in the middle of December, 1933 and proceeded directly to the farm of Harry Sawyer, a bootlegger, ex car thief and harborer of criminals. Harry Sawyer lived on a farm with his wife, Gladys, who also was an intimate associate of the gang. Alvin Karpis and Dolores Delaney did not remain in St. Paul, but proceeded on to Chicago, Illinois. Harry Campbell and Wynona Burdette, upon their arrival in St. Paul, Minnesota, made their residence at the Capitol Hotel under the names of Mr. and Mrs. George Martin. Fred Barker and Paula Harmon rented an apartment at 628 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota under the names of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Bergstrom. Volney Davis and Edna Murray as Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Davis, moved into an apartment at the Edgcumb Apartments, Osceola and Lexington Avenues in St. Paul. "Doc" Barker found shelter with William Weaver, who had not enjoyed the rounds of gambling and drinking with the others at Reno. William Weaver, at this time, maintained an apartment at 777 Shelby Avenue in St. Paul, Minnesota. The moll of William Weaver was Myrtle Eaton, who was a native of Des Moines, Iowa. Myrtle Eaton had been an associate of criminals all her life and she maintained an apartment at 565 Portland Avenue in St. Paul, Minnesota, which apartment was frequented by the various members of the gang. Myrtle Eaton by profession was a shoplifter and her record indicates that she was arrested for this offense by the Police Department at Minneapolis, Minnesota on February 27, 1930 and was fined \$100.00. On December 9, 1930, as Sue Bond, alias Sue Hubble, she was arrested by the Police Department at St. Paul, Minnesota on charges of shoplifting, which charges were later dismissed on motion of the County Attorney. On December 29, 1931 she was arrested by the Police Department at Des Moines, Iowa as Mrs. Alice Martin on charges of investigation but was not prosecuted.

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At Chicago, Illinois, Alvin Karpis, who was known to his confederates as "Slim" or "Ray" and Dolores Delaney took up their residence at the Orlando Hotel and later rented an apartment at 7133 Yates Avenue under the names of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Lohman. Fred Goetz, with his woman, Irene Dorsey, the daughter of a saloonkeeper, in the month of December 1933 was living at 1954 Garfield Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois. Tubercular Bryan Bolton, alias Monte Carter, had been called from his health restoring activities in Arizona and in December of 1933 made his home with Goetz. He Barker was living quietly in an apartment on the exclusive South Shore Drive in Chicago, Illinois.

During the latter part of December 1933, Alvin Karpis and Fred Goetz joined the others of the gang who had settled in St. Paul, Minnesota, where conferences were held to lay plans for another kidnaping. These conferences were held in the apartments occupied by William Weaver and Myrtle Eaton and were attended by Alvin Karpis, William Weaver, Fred Goetz, Arthur "Doc" Barker, Fred Barker, Volney Davis, Harry Campbell and Harry Sawyer. One day Sawyer and Goetz visited a bowling alley known as a recreation parlor and as would be stated in the language of the underworld, Sawyer "put the finger on Edward George Bremer."

The gang had originally planned to rob the Commercial State Bank, St. Paul, Minnesota, of which Edward George Bremer was the President, but Sawyer in his dictatorial manner insisted that more money could be obtained if "Eddie Bremer was snatched". Definite plans were made for the kidnaping of Mr. Bremer, but on the night of January 13, 1934 after a conference at the apartment of Myrtle Eaton, Mr. E. L. McCord and two companions who were employed by the Northwest Airways Company were in the vicinity of Portland and St. Alban Streets in St. Paul, dressed in uniforms of the Airways Company, as Fred Barker and another of the gang left the apartment building in which Myrtle Eaton resided. The gangsters entered their car and started to drive away, but upon seeing Mr. McCord and his friends, they believed that officers were following them and opened fire on the employees of the Airways Company, seriously wounding Mr. McCord. After this occurrence, Harry Sawyer insisted that because of the "heat" the shooting had caused in the town, the kidnaping of Mr. Bremer be postponed. The members of the mob acquiesced to Sawyer's desires in this matter.

THE KIDNAPING OF EDWARD GEORGE BREMER AND THE DOWNFALL  
OF THE KARPIS-BARKER GANG.

Edward George Bremer each day during the school year drove his nine year old daughter Hertzy to the Summit School, which was a private institution

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located on Goodrich Avenue near Lexington Avenue and each morning he would proceed upon Goodrich Avenue after taking his daughter to school, cross Lexington Avenue and on to his duties at the bank. Each morning he brought his car to a stop at the traffic sign located at Lexington and Goodrich Avenues. This stop was made about a half a block distant from the apartment building occupied by Edna Murray and Volney Davis. On January 17, 1934, Mr. Bremer, in keeping with his usual custom, drove his daughter to school and arrived at the stop sign at Lexington and Goodrich Avenues between the hours of 8:30 and 9:00 A.M. When Mr. Bremer made the stop, a man approached the left front door of the Lincoln sedan which Mr. Bremer drove, held a pistol to his side and told him "to move over" and simultaneously with the actions of this gunman, another opened the right front door of the car, struck Mr. Bremer over the head several times with a blunt instrument and pushed him to the floor of the car with his head under the instrument board. Taped goggles were placed over his eyes. Edward George Bremer, scion of one of the wealthiest and most prominent families in St. Paul and the northwest, was the victim of kidnapers, which kidnaping was effected by five men using two automobiles.

Edward G. Bremer is the son of Adolph Bremer, part owner of the Jacob Schmidt Brewing Company, and the nephew of Otto Bremer, Chairman of the American National Bank, St. Paul, Minnesota and Manager of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation. Edward Bremer is married and has one daughter, Hertzy.

At about 10:40 A.M. on January 17, 1934, Walter Magee, Contractor of St. Paul, Minnesota and a close friend of the Bremer family, received a telephone call at his office, 118 West Central Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, from a man who gave his name as Charles McKee. The caller informed Mr. Magee that "they" had his friend Bremer and that Mr. Magee was to go outside his office, where he would find a note. Mr. Magee complied with this instruction and immediately went to the side of the building in which his office is located and there under a side door found a ransom note addressed to him as "Chas. Magee", which note read as follows:

"You are hereby declared in on a very desperate undertaking. Don't try to cross us. Your future and E's are the important issue. Follow these instructions to the letter. Police have never helped in such a spot and won't this time either. You better take care of the payoff first and let them do the detecting later. Because the police usually butt in your friend isn't none to comfortable now so don't delay the payment. We demand \$200,000. Payment must be made in 5 and 10 dollar bills - no new money - no consecutive numbers - large variety of issues. Place the money in two large suit box cartons big enough to hold the full amount and tie with heavy cord. No contact will be made until you notify us that you are ready to pay as we direct. You place an ad in the Minneapolis Tribune as soon as you have the money ready. Under personal column (We are ready Alice). You will

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then receive your final instructions. Be prepared to leave at a minutes notice to make the payoff. Dont attempt to stall or outsmart us. Dont try to bargain. Dont plead poverty we know how much they have in their banks. Dont try to communicate with us we'll do the directing. Threats arent necessary - you just do your part - we guarantee to do ours.

Mr. Chas McGee

I have named you as payoff man. You are responsible for my safety. I am responsible for the full amount of the money.

(Signed) E. G. Bremer  
Deal only when signature is used.

Chas. McGee, Personal."

The St. Paul Field Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, and the St. Paul Police Department were immediately notified and an investigation was begun of the second major kidnapping which had occurred in St. Paul, Minnesota within six months' time. The automobile which Mr. Bremer had been driving at the time he was kidnaped was found on the date the kidnaping occurred parked on Edgcumbe Road in St. Paul, Minnesota. The bloodstains on the steering wheel, the gear shift lever, the doorsill, the back of the front seat and on the floor of the car indicated to the investigators that a struggle had occurred. Fear was expressed by the relatives of Mr. Bremer and the officials investigating the kidnaping that possibly Mr. Bremer was dead. At about 6:00 o'clock on the morning of January 20, 1934, Dr. H. T. Nippert, 706 Lincoln Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, was awakened by a crash to which he paid no particular attention at the moment, but later in the morning Dr. Nippert received a telephone call and a voice told him to go to the vestibule of his home and see what he could find. Dr. Nippert immediately went downstairs and found that a bottle had been thrown through the plate glass front door and he also found an envelope addressed to him which apparently had been left under the door. Two other envelopes were in the one addressed to Dr. Nippert. One of the inclosed envelopes was addressed to Walter Magee and the other to Mrs. Edward Bremer. Dr. Nippert promptly delivered the envelopes to Adolph Bremer. In the one addressed to Walter Magee was a note beginning "Chas. McGee" which read as follows:

"You must be proud of yourself by now. If Bremer dont get back his family has you to thank. Youve made it almost impossible but were going to give one more chance - the last. First of all all coppers must be pulled off. Second the dough must be ready.

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Third we must have a new signal. When you are ready to meet our terms place a B.R.A. sticker in the center of each of your office windows. Well know if the copper's are pulled or not. Remain at your office daily from noon until 8.00 p.m. Have the dough ready and where you can get it within thirty minutes. You will be instructed how to deliver it. The money must not be hot as it will be examined before Bremer is released. If Dahill is so hot to meet us you can send him out with the dough. Well try to be ready for any trickery if attempted. This is positively our LAST attempt. DONT duck it.

Mr. Chas. McOee

I have named you as payoff man. You are responsible for my safety. I am responsible for the full amount of the money.

E. G. Bremer\*

The above note was signed in ink, "E.G.BREMER".

There was also a note in the handwriting of Mr. Edward Bremer addressed to Dr. H. T. Nippert, Loury Building, St. Paul, Minnesota, which read as follows:

"Dear Doctor:

I am enclosing herewith two letters which please deliver for me at once. Deliver them both to my father at the house — 855 West 7th St. or at the office, wherever he may be — it is very important that they be delivered right away as it means a lot to me. Be sure however not to say a word to anyone else that you have been given these letters to deliver. The reason I am writing to you is because I know you can be trusted not to say anything.

Edward G. Bremer\*.

There were also two notes written in the handwriting of Mr. Bremer, one being addressed to "Dear Walter" and the other to Mrs. Edward Bremer, in which Mr. Bremer addressed her as "Dearest Pats", which were as follows:

"Dear Walter:

I'm sorry to have called on you but I felt you were the old standby. Assure Emily & Pat that I'm allright. I know you would use your head & work on this all alone - no police. The people that have me have given the impression that you are not working alone. Walter,

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please do. I know you will for me. I've been told that the reason the first plan was not gone through with was because you were working with the police. Again I say please work all alone & I'm sure everything will come out alright. Be sure now - no strings allow here. You & You alone. These people are going to give you a new plan. Work according to their directions - & again I say - alone - no police - just you.

Edward  
E.G.Bremer\*

"Dearest Pets.

Please don't worry. I hope everything will come out alright. Tell Hertzy to be a good little girl, her daddy is thinking of her all the time and to see you or her again is all that I want. I suppose you are worrying about the blood in the car. I have a cut on my head which bleed a lot but it has been dressed & is alright now. Tell Pa too not to worry. I'm treated nice & the only thing I have to ask is to keep the police out of this so that I am returned to you all safely.

Yours,

Ed.\*

Nothing further was heard from the kidnappers until the morning of January 24, 1954 when Mr. William P. Behrens arrived at his office, the Behrens-Knitman Coal Company, 972 West 7th Street, St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was given a note which had been found that morning by Mr. C. A. Stahlmann, when he arrived at Mr. Behrens' office where he was employed as a bookkeeper. Mr. Stahlmann found upon opening the door to the office an envelope with a typewritten address to Walter Magee or Adolph Bremer. Mr. Behrens opened this note and found the following typewritten message:

"Chas. Magee

If you can wait O.K. with us. You people shot a lot of curves trying to get somebody killed then the copper's will be heroes but Eddie will be the partner. The copper's think that great but Eddie dont. Here done taking the draw and you can go now. From now on you make the contact. Better not try it till you pull off every copper, newspaper, and radio station. From now on you get the silent treatment until you reach us somehow yourself. Better not wait too long."

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In an effort to operate unmolested, the kidnappers were demanding that the law enforcement agencies cease investigation. On January 25, 1934 Mr. John Miller, 1209 Hague Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, received a telephone call between 6:00 and 7:00 o'clock in the evening and the caller instructed Mr. Miller to go to his home and there he would find a Hill Brothers coffee can on his front porch. Upon his arrival at his home, Mr. Miller found that his wife had already discovered the note. This note instructed that \$200,000 must be delivered that night and the note was addressed to Chas. McGee or Adolph Bremer. It instructed that the tag which was inclosed with the note be taken to the Jefferson Lines Bus Station. This tag was a baggage check. This note carried a warning that the recipients of this note should not stall and were to follow instructions. The note further instructed that the baggage check was for the baggage checking locker in the waiting room of the station and further indicated that a handbag would be found at the bus station in which further instructions would be contained. Mr. Magee was instructed that this handbag should not be opened one minute before 8:20 P.M.

Walter Magee followed the instructions and proceeded to the bus depot and obtained a black zipper bag which bag contained a pillow and an additional note, which instructed Mr. Magee to assume the name of John B. Brakesham and to board a bus leaving St. Paul, Minnesota at 8:40 P.M. for Des Moines, Iowa. The pay-off, however, was not accomplished on this night and it was subsequently learned by the investigators that a ransom note purporting to have been signed in ink by Mr. E. G. Bremer had been left at the New Hotel Brunswick, Faribault, Minnesota by a man who was dressed in overalls and appeared to be a farmer. This individual stated to Arthur Murray, who was at the hotel, that a bus from the Twin Cities would arrive at Faribault about 10:30 P.M. and that he wanted to leave a package with Mr. Murray to give to a passenger on the bus and claimed that the package contained medicine, the man's father having forgotten to take it with him. As no one called for the package, it was held for one month by Mr. Murray before it was opened and when opened it was found to contain a note addressed to "Chas. McGee" or pay-off man (John B. Brakesham). The note stated that all previous instructions were canceled.

On February 5, 1934 Miss Lillian L. Dickman, secretary to Edward G. Bremer, received a note from a man who came to the back door of her home between 7:30 and 8:00 o'clock in the evening. The man who delivered this note asked "Are you Lillian Dickman" and when receiving a reply in the affirmative the man handed her a note and told her to take care of it. This note, which was in the handwriting of the kidnaped victim, was delivered to Adolph Bremer and urged that the ransom negotiations proceed in accordance with the instructions outlined by the kidnappers.

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The following day at about 4:30 P.M., Father Deere, a Catholic priest of Prior Lake, Minnesota, was approached by an unknown man at the door of his home who asked Father Deere if he was acquainted with a family by the name of Bremer and when the unknown individual learned that Father Deere knew the Bremer family, he thrust an envelope into his hand, which envelope contained a note addressed to Father Deere instructing him to deliver additional notes, which were in the envelope, to Adolph Bremer and Edward Bremer's wife. The note which was to be delivered to Adolph Bremer bore the salutation "Chas. McGee or Honest Adolph" and stated that "the coppers jimmied the last payoff". This note gave explicit instructions for the payment of the ransom money and warned that if the money was not paid on this particular night the ransom demand would be increased to \$500,000.

Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation worked quietly so as not to interfere with the payment of the ransom money if it were the family's desire to do so. Immediately after the first demand for ransom had been made, Special Agents caused the serial numbers of the ransom bills to be recorded, which act proved to be of inestimable value in subsequent investigation.

In compliance with the instructions contained in the ransom note addressed to "Chas. McGee or Honest Adolph", Walter Magee on the evening of February 6, 1934 obtained a Ford sedan and with the \$200,000 in ransom money, which was made up of five and ten dollar bills, drove in a circuitous route to 969 University Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, arriving at this point at approximately 8:00 P.M., where he found parked in front of that address a 1933 Chevrolet coupe bearing Shell Oil Company signs on each door. Mr. Magee transferred the ransom money from the Ford coupe and entered the Chevrolet car with the ransom money. In the left front door pocket of the Chevrolet coupe Mr. Magee found the keys to the car and an additional note which directed him further as to the delivery of the ransom. This note read as follows:

"Go to Farmington, Minnesota. The Rochester bus will arrive there at 9:15 P.M. and leave at 9:25 P.M. Follow one hundred yards in back of this bus, when it leaves Farmington until you come to four red lights on the left of the road; turn on the first road to the left and proceed at fifteen miles per hour until you see five flashes of lights; then stop and deposit packages of money on right hand side of road. Leave the two notes; get in car and go straight ahead."

In compliance with the instruction contained in this last note, Mr. Magee as intermediary proceeded to Farmington, Minnesota, from there followed the bus to Cannon Falls, to Zumbrota, Minnesota and from this latter place Mr. Magee drove four or five miles until he saw the four red lights on the left side of the road on the bank of a hill. When Mr. Magee came to this

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point he located a gravel road nearby leading to the left, down which he proceeded slowly and after traveling about one-half a mile, a car pulled up behind him and he saw the headlights of the car flash five times. Mr. Magee then stopped the Chevrolet coupe, walked around to the rear of the car, opened the door of the right side and took out two suit boxes, placed them on the right hand side of the road and the ransom for the release of Edward George Bremer had been paid.

At about 8:00 P.M. on February 7, 1934, Mr. Edward G. Bremer was released by his abductors at Rochester, Minnesota. When he arrived at that place with his abductors, Mr. Bremer was instructed by them to get out of the car in the middle of the street and to stand with his back towards the direction in which the kidnappers' car was headed. He was then told to count slowly to fifteen, after which the bandage over his eyes could be removed.

After Mr. Bremer had returned safely to his home, Special Agents were free to pursue the investigation of the kidnaping vigorously. Mr. Bremer, although having been injured at the time he was kidnaped and had been blindfolded with tape and goggles, was able to hear various sounds en route to the hide-out where he was held. The gang did not keep him blindfolded at all times at the hide-out and he was able to observe things which were later to be of assistance in identifying the place where he was held captive. Mr. Bremer was able to furnish the investigators with information that upon his arrival at the place where he was held he heard two dogs barking and these dogs appeared to be very close to the house and they barked on frequent occasions. Mr. Bremer also heard a group of children playing in close proximity to the house and the noise of the children indicated that they were probably from four to eight years of age. Mr. Bremer also heard children passing through the yard adjoining the hide-out house. After the first few days of Mr. Bremer's confinement, the goggles which had been placed over his eyes at the time of his abduction were removed and he was permitted to sit in his room without any obstruction over his face and this afforded him an opportunity to observe the furnishings of the bedroom in which he was held. He made a mental picture of the wallpaper and was able to describe it in such detail that similar wallpaper was traced by Special Agents and found to have been sold by a large mail order house. A specimen of this wallpaper was obtained and Mr. Bremer was able to positively identify it as being similar to that which was on the walls in the bedroom.

Although blindfolded, Mr. Bremer was able to furnish certain information concerning the toilet room in which he was taken from time to time. He learned that the lever for flushing the toilet consisted of what appeared to be a metal screw. The enamel which had covered the screw had either been removed or broken. He observed a crack in the wall of the bedroom. Overhead Mr. Bremer heard a small child crying and estimated the age of the child to be about one year and he also heard another child approximately four years of age playing on the floor above him. Mr. Bremer was convinced that there was

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a coal stove adjacent to the room in which he was held, as he heard sounds indicating that coal was being shoveled from a bin into a scuttle and the sound indicated that the coal was being kept in a position near the kitchen. Mr. Bremer was further able to describe the sounds of traffic, which traffic apparently was in close proximity to the hide-out house. He could hear the brakes being applied to either busses or trucks, which gave him the impression that he was near a "stop sign" on a main highway. Sounds of trains could also be heard, Mr. Bremer being of the opinion that these trains were probably interurban in character as they passed most frequently in the mornings and in the afternoons. In connection with the food which was served to him, Mr. Bremer advised the Special Agents that he was of the opinion the food was cooked by a man, because it was always too well seasoned; that on one occasion he was served fish and on another occasion he was served fresh strawberry shortcake, which due to the season of the year was considered very unusual.

Mr. Bremer was unable to state definitely the number of hours he was transported after being kidnaped at St. Paul, but after traveling several hours they arrived at the hide-out and his abductors dressed his wounded head, which wound had been inflicted upon him at the time he was kidnaped. Mr. Bremer was of the opinion that he traveled through a city of medium size en route to the hide-out, inasmuch as he heard streetcars. Mr. Bremer also was able to furnish the Special Agents with information concerning his return trip to Rochester, Minnesota. Mr. Bremer stated that upon leaving the hide-out sometime during the morning of February 7, 1934, he was placed in what appeared to be a one seated automobile by his abductors; that after riding a short distance he was transferred to another car and that this second car was a sedan. He was forced to enter the sedan and sit on the floor immediately behind the driver with his back against the front seat and his right side leaning against the left rear door. At this time his hand touched the butt of what appeared to be either a shotgun or a rifle on the floor. He also was able to ascertain that there was a tin can immediately on his left side on which he could comfortably rest his left elbow; that this can appeared to be an ordinary five gallon tin can which contained gasoline, as he could smell the strong odor of that fuel. Mr. Bremer estimated that after approximately one-half of the distance had been covered between the hide-out house and Rochester, Minnesota, the car in which he was riding turned off from the paved road and after ten or fifteen minutes the car pulled to the side of a road and the two men who were in the front seat of the car and the one in the rear seat guarding him got out and took out of the car at least two tin cans containing gasoline. He heard his abductors pour gasoline into the tank of the car in which he was riding, after which the journey was resumed. He recalled that his abductors at the time the tank of the automobile was refueled turned off the paved highway, because he heard gravel striking the windows of the car.

With this information at hand, Special Agents continued their investigation and on February 10, 1934 the Sheriff of Columbia County, Wisconsin

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turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation four large gasoline cans and a tin funnel which had been found by a farmer near Portage, Wisconsin. Due to the information furnished by Mr. Bremer concerning the refueling of the automobile used in the return trip from the hide-out house, these gasoline cans were immediately forwarded by Special Agents to the Technical Laboratory of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Washington, D. C. The Laboratory examination of the gasoline cans revealed a latent fingerprint, which fingerprint was identified as being identical with the right index fingerprint of Arthur "Doc" Barker.

On February 8, 1934 Special Agents retraced the route taken by Walter Magee at the time he paid the ransom money and at a point several miles south of Zumbrota, Minnesota, four flashlights were found equipped with red film lenses. These lights, which had been used as signal lights at the time Mr. Magee delivered the ransom money to the kidnappers, bore the trademark "Merit Product". The Special Agents then began the task of tracing these flashlights and it was learned that flashlights of this make were sold at the F. & W. Grand Silver Store, 67 7th Street, St. Paul, Minnesota. At this store a girl employee identified the photograph of Alvin Karpis as having purchased the flashlights from her prior to the kidnapping of Mr. Bremer.

Special Agents after the identification of Arthur "Doc" Barker and Alvin Karpis had definite leads and knew the identity of two of the actual participants in the kidnapping of Mr. Bremer. The Special Agents knew also that the gang which had extorted and robbed the citizens of the Twin Cities of more than \$300,000 in less than a year's time were desperate criminals. Arthur "Doc" Barker and Alvin Karpis were not strangers to the Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation - their histories were known.

On March 8, 1934, Fred Goetz met his death. He was murdered by members of the underworld at Cicero, Illinois as he was leaving a saloon. His murderers eliminated him from further participation in the criminal activities of the Karpis-Barker gang by several shotgun blasts in his face, which prevented recognition. He was identified by fingerprints. After the death of Fred Goetz, investigation revealed that he had participated in the abduction of Mr. Bremer. Efforts were made by Special Agents to locate Irene Dorsey, with whom Goetz had been living. Interviews with the parents of Irene Dorsey and Fred Goetz produced no information concerning her whereabouts other than that Irene Dorsey was somewhere in the west. Continued investigation revealed that Irene had sent to her parents the following telegram:

"No contracts no signing partner to settle read and think. Use your wits, neither cloud is under control and all need Indian orders wait for them. Answer yes at once". Signed "Irene Dorsey, Lorraine Hotel, San Francisco, California".

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Irene Dorsey was not located at the Lerna Hotel. She was located in the mental ward of a hospital. Her association with the criminal Fred Goetz had been too much and her mind faltered under the strain.

Subsequent investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation revealed that Fred Goetz, with Fred Barker and Volney Davis, had carried on ransom negotiations in St. Paul and had collected the \$800,000 from the intermediary. It was further learned that Volney Davis had been the individual who had openly approached Lillian Dickman and Father Deere in the negotiations for the payment of the ransom money.

On February 9, 1934, two days subsequent to the release of Mr. Bremer, the Federal Bureau of Investigation began the distribution of the printed list containing the serial numbers of all the currency which comprised the ransom. These lists were distributed to all banks in the United States and in some foreign countries, with the request that should any of the listed currency be detected in a bank the nearest division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was to be immediately notified. On April 23, 1934 the Chicago Field Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation received information that an individual appeared at the Uptown State Bank, 1050 Wilson Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and presented \$900.00 in five dollar bills and \$100.00 in ten and twenty dollar bills and requested that \$100 bills be given in exchange therefor. The teller at the bank was suspicious of this exchange and compared the serial numbers appearing on the five and ten dollar bills with the ransom list. It was found to be ransom money. Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation acting promptly on this lead and having obtained a description of the individual who passed the money, who investigation disclosed had appeared at other banking institutions in the city, redoubled their efforts to locate him. On April 26, 1934 an individual appeared at the City National Bank and Trust Company, Chicago, Illinois and desired a \$100.00 bill for ten \$10 bills, which were determined by the officials of the bank to be ransom money. Again the Chicago Field Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was immediately notified and investigation disclosed that the individual who had exchanged the money had made the remark that he was a "bookie". A bookmaker's establishment at 226 South Wells Street in Chicago was located. At this place Special Agents located William Edward Vidler, who admitted that he was the man who had been exchanging the money in Chicago, but denied that he knew it was ransom money.

It was further learned that Vidler's associates in the exchange of the money were John J. McLaughlin, commonly known as "Boss" McLaughlin, a political "ward heeler", John J. McLaughlin, Jr. and Philip Delaney. On April 28, 1934 "Boss" McLaughlin was taken into custody by Special Agents. He was indignant that he should be arrested. Telegrams were dispatched to the President of the United States and to the Attorney General by McLaughlin's wife, protesting the

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arrest. The attempt failed and McLaughlin remained in custody. The ex-Illinois State Legislator was unable to gain his freedom by endeavoring to use political influence. John McLaughlin, Jr. and Philip Delaney were also arrested and charged with being money-changers. When questioned concerning his part in the transaction, John J. McLaughlin, Sr. stated that he first negotiated with one Frankie Wright in the lobby of a prominent hotel in Chicago; that he was later introduced by Wright to individuals known only to him as "Izzy" and "Slim"; that he agreed to exchange the money on a five per cent cut basis and understood from information furnished to him by "Izzy" and "Slim" that the first \$100,000 to be exchanged was the Hamm ransom money paid by William A. Hamm of St. Paul to effect his release from a gang of kidnapers and that \$200,000, paid by Edward G. Bremer, would be forthcoming at a later date to be exchanged. Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation also learned that McLaughlin had visited "Izzy" and "Slim" at a hotel on Irving Park Boulevard in Chicago, Illinois. Investigation disclosed that the hotel in question was the Irving Hotel on Irving Park Boulevard and that the room in which McLaughlin had met "Izzy" and "Slim" was rented by Dr. Joseph P. Moran.

It was further learned that additional rooms had been rented at the hotel by Dr. Moran on April 23, 25, 26 and 27, 1954. This investigation disclosed that an individual known as Roy Gray, of 626 Cleveland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, was a frequent visitor to Dr. Moran. Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation obtained a photograph of Roy Gray and after examining it found that it was identical with the photograph of Russell Gibson, for whom the Federal Bureau of Investigation had previously prepared an Identification Order, showing Gibson to be wanted for violation of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act and also for robbing the American First National Bank messenger at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on May 24, 1929. Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation through their investigative efforts identified "Izzy" as Oliver A. Berg, who was wanted by the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet, Illinois.

Special Agents on the night of August 22, 1954 arrested Oliver A. Berg at the home of his sister, 5248 North Kincade Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Nearby in a desk of the room in which Berg was taken into custody were found fully loaded revolvers which Berg had no opportunity to use. Berg did not surrender peacefully and although he was advised of the identity of the Special Agents, he screamed that he was "being taken for a ride". Berg boasted that he was one of the few surviving members of the so-called "Bugs" Moran mob, which had terrorized Chicago, Illinois in the early prohibition days, the majority of that gang being annihilated on February 14, 1929, by what is now known as the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, in which Fred Goetz is alleged to have been one of the machine gunners.

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It appears that Berg had been received at the Southern Illinois State Penitentiary, Menard, Illinois on December 15, 1926, to serve a sentence of ten years to life imprisonment after conviction on a charge of robbery with a gun. He appealed his case and while it was receiving consideration of the Appellate Court, he was released from the Illinois State Penitentiary on bond on November 7, 1931. The Appellate Court, however, sustained the sentence of the Lower Court and Berg did not return to the penitentiary until after his apprehension by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Inquiry into the background of Dr. Joseph P. Moran revealed that he had an extensive practice in medicine, most of his patients being members of the underworld. Dr. Moran himself had served a sentence at the State Penitentiary, Joliet, Illinois for the crime of abortion. He was received at the penitentiary on November 17, 1926 for LaSalle County, Illinois, under sentence of one to ten years. He was paroled on April 7, 1930 and having violated the terms of his parole was returned to the penitentiary on January 23, 1931. He was again paroled on December 15, 1931. While in the penitentiary, Dr. Moran engaged in medical work and is said to have operated upon approximately 4,500 persons, including prisoners and officials during the period of his incarceration. While in the penitentiary, Dr. Moran met various labor leaders who visited that Institution and through these contacts he became the physician for the Chicago Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers' Union, with headquarters in Maywood, Illinois, subsequent to the time he was released from the penitentiary. As physician for this union, Dr. Moran became very closely associated with the Touhy mob and the Capone Syndicate. During August of 1933 the union was reorganized and at the time Dr. Moran was dropped as its physician. He thereafter established himself in an office on Irving Park Boulevard, where many of his friends from the underworld continued to call upon him.

Fred Goetz and Irene Dorsey subsequent to the release of Mr. Bremer moved from their apartment at 1934 West Garfield Boulevard to an apartment located at 7827 South Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois. After the collection of the ransom money from the Bremer family, it was taken to the apartment of Fred Goetz by Volney Davis, Goetz and Bryan Bolton, but later in order to better conceal the loot, Goetz took the ransom money and buried it in the garage of Simon Cinotto, Irene Dorsey's uncle, at Wilmington, Illinois.

At the time Mr. Bremer was being held a kidnaped victim, the women members of the mob concealed themselves in apartments located in Chicago, Illinois. Edna Murray, Wynona Burdette and Paula Harmon secured an apartment together at 6212 University Avenue. The arrangements for this apartment were made by William J. Harrison. Ma Barker at this time was residing in an apartment at 7269 South Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois, which apartment she occupied until September, 1934. Here she waited patiently for her sons to successfully consummate their latest crime. Harrison also did

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*Answered*

other favors for the gang and on February 27, 1934 Harrison, with Wynona Burdette and Edna Murray, traveled from Chicago, Illinois to Toledo, Ohio and registered at the Algeo Hotel. The purpose of this trip was to secure license plates for the automobile of Fred Barker. Harrison during the time he was operating speakeasies at Calumet City, Illinois had as a partner, Bert Angus, who at the time of the visit in February 1934 of Harrison to Toledo, Ohio was operating a roadhouse known as the Casino Club, Point Place, Ohio, a suburb of Toledo, Ohio, in partnership with his ex-convict brother Ted Angus and immediately upon Harrison's arrival in Toledo he contacted his old friend Bert Angus and through a bartender arranged for the purchase of a set of license plates. During the same afternoon, while Edna Murray, Wynona Burdette and Harrison were sleeping in their rooms at the Algeo Hotel, two police officers, upon orders of Captain George Timiney, in charge of the so-called "hoodlum" squad of the Toledo, Ohio Police Department, in order to play a practical joke on Harrison, caused Harrison's arrest. Harrison pleaded that he was a good friend of Bert Angus, but the officers refused to heed his pleadings, but finally agreed to take him to the Casino Club to ascertain whether Bert Angus would vouch for him. As a part of the hoax, Bert Angus and Captain Timiney refused to recognize Harrison. In the meantime, the women in the hotel room were frantic. They feared that possibly the Karpis-Barker gang had already been identified as the kidnapers of Mr. Bremer. Immediately after securing the license plates, Harrison, with Wynona Burdette and Edna Murray, returned to Chicago, Illinois.

Just prior to the release of Mr. Bremer, dissent arose among Edna Murray, Wynona Burdette and Paula Harrison and Paula secured another apartment located at 6708 Constance Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, where Fred Barker presumably resided with her after the collection of the ransom money. The landlord later complained that this apartment was vacated without notice the latter part of February 1934 and left in a disorderly condition. Due to the reliable contact that Harrison had established in Toledo, Ohio, Fred Barker and Paula Harrison after leaving the apartment on Constance Avenue proceeded to the vicinity of Toledo, Ohio and there as Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Bradford, rented an apartment at 4905 Summit Street, Point Place, Ohio.

In late February, 1934, Volney Davis, posing as a gambler and ex-prize fighter, with Edna Murray, moved to Aurora, Illinois, where they had an apartment at 415 Fox Street. Volney and Edna believed that they would be in less fear of apprehension if they did not live in too close proximity to other members of the gang. Their wishes in this matter were soon shattered, as William Leaver and Myrtle Eaton also moved to Aurora, Illinois and rented a room at 50 South 4th Street and later moved into an apartment at 411 Main Street. "Doc" Barker also made his home with Leaver and Myrtle Eaton at the latter address. Leaver represented himself to the citizens of Aurora as being William Thornton, a man engaged in the slot machine business. "Doc" Barker was known as Mr. Morley.

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After the assassination of Fred Goetz, the gang deemed it advisable to move the ransom money from its burial place at Wilmington, Illinois and thereafter, on or about March 23, 1934, Kate Barker and Irene Dorsey contacted Volney Davis at his apartment in Aurora, Illinois and on that night Volney Davis, with Kate Barker and Irene Dorsey, removed the ransom money from Wilmington, Illinois, taking it to the apartment of Fred Barker in Chicago, Illinois, who had returned from Toledo, Ohio. Thereafter the ransom negotiations with "Boss" McLaughlin began on or about April 18, 1934 and the money was taken to the apartment of William Weaver at Aurora, Illinois. The money was then routed through Dr. Moran to the money-changers in Chicago, Illinois.

During the months of March and April 1934, Moran's rooms at the Irving Hotel were used as a rendezvous by "Doc" Barker, Oliver A. Berg, "Boss" McLaughlin, Russell Gibson and other members of the Karpis-Barker gang. The rooms of Dr. Moran contained at various times many thousands of dollars of the ransom money. After the money had been exchanged, it was returned to Dr. Moran's rooms, where percentages were paid for the exchanges and other quantities of ransom money were given to McLaughlin for further exchange. Moran received his "cut" for the assistance which he rendered. Oliver A. Berg, Russell Gibson and James Kilson, the nephew of Dr. Moran, were assisting the mobsters by making trips with them to Aurora, Illinois to secure money for purposes of exchange in Chicago and Kilson was running other errands which were required. James Kilson became involved with this notorious mob because he had hoped that his uncle, Dr. Moran, would secure sufficient remuneration from the exchange of the ransom money to permit his uncle defraying his expenses for a medical course in college.

Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ascertained that on or about the 10th of March, 1934, Dr. Moran operated on the fingers and faces of Alvin Karpis and Fred Barker in his rooms at the Irving Hotel, in an unsuccessful effort to alter their fingerprints and facial characteristics to prevent identification. After these operations, Alvin Karpis and Fred Barker convalesced in a room provided for them by Oliver Berg at the home of his sister on Ninthrop Avenue in Chicago, Illinois. Fred Barker was suffering from the operations the night Fred Goetz was killed. This prevented him from taking an active part in the removal of the ransom money from Wilmington, Illinois. It is said that Fred Barker was a "raving maniac", due to the pain caused by the unsuccessful operations performed by the ex-convict doctor.

On April 22, 1934 at the lodge known as Little Bohemia at Spider Lake, Wisconsin, John Dillinger and his mobsters evaded capture by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and fled to St. Paul, Minnesota and thence to Chicago, Illinois. In this escape John Hamilton, the gangster associate of Dillinger, was wounded. Refuge was sought and obtained by

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Dillinger, Homer Van Meter and the wounded Hamilton from members of the Karpis-Barker gang. Through mutual contacts of Dillinger and members of the Karpis-Barker gang, which were members of the Capone Syndicate, Dillinger was put in touch with Elmer Farmer at Bensenville, Illinois and through Elmer Farmer arrangements were made to take John Hamilton to the home of Volney Davis at Aurora, Illinois, at which place Hamilton died and after his death he was buried by Volney Davis, "Doc" Barker, John Dillinger, Homer Van Meter, William Weaver and Harry Campbell in a gravel pit near Oswego, Illinois. The body of Hamilton was later recovered on August 28, 1935 by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

On the day that "Boss" McLaughlin was arrested with his colleagues in Chicago, Illinois, a dramatic incident occurred at Aurora, Illinois. The gang did not know whether "Boss" McLaughlin would talk. They anticipated that if he did talk the gang's hide-out at Aurora would become known. They decided to be prepared. "Doc" Barker, Harry Campbell, Volney Davis and William Weaver, together with their guests John Dillinger and Homer Van Meter, guarded the windows and the doors of Volney Davis' apartment all through the night, each being armed with a machine gun, anticipating a raid by Special Agents. The following morning, Russell Gibson brought them the details of what he had learned concerning the arrest of the money-changers. Coincident with the announcement in the press on April 28, 1934 of the arrest of John J. McLaughlin, Sr. and the others, Dr. Joseph P. Moran abandoned his rooms at the Irving Hotel and together with Oliver A. Berg, Russell Gibson and James Wilson, fled to Toledo, Ohio.

Prior to the occurrences at Aurora, Illinois and immediately after the release of Mr. Bremer, Harry Campbell and Wynona Burdette, under the names of Mr. and Mrs. George Nelson, rented an apartment at the Jarvis Apartments in Toledo, Ohio and later, on March 25, 1934, Harry Campbell and Wynona Burdette, as Mr. and Mrs. George Winfield, rented a house at 2851 151st Street, Point Place, Ohio and apparently Harry Campbell returned to Chicago and Aurora on various occasions during the ransom exchange negotiations.

Alvin Karpis and Dolores Delaney, on April 18, 1934, as Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Baudry, rented an apartment at the Jarvis Apartments in Toledo, at which place they continued to reside until May 18, 1934.

Edna Murray after fleeing from Aurora, Illinois subsequent to the apprehension of "Boss" McLaughlin, made a trip to Kansas City, Missouri and vicinity and later joined Volney Davis in Toledo, Ohio, where on May 3, 1934 they rented an apartment at the Burdella Apartments under the names of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Morley.

The investigation by Special Agents revealed that although the gang had fled from Chicago and Aurora, Illinois, they were making every effort to avoid detection and identification. Arrangements were made at Toledo for

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Volney Davis, Harry Campbell and "Doc" Barker to undergo facial and finger operations similar to those which had been performed on Karpis and Barker at Chicago, Illinois. On the night Dr. Moran was to perform these operations, with the assistance of James Wilson, at the home of Harry Campbell in Point Place, Ohio, Harry Campbell alarmed the other members of the gang by advising them he believed the house was under surveillance by police officers. The operations were postponed while Fred Barker made inquiries, through Ted Angus, whether that situation really existed. Upon receiving information that there was nothing at which they should be alarmed, Dr. Moran performed the operations. It was later said that Harry Campbell lacked courage in going through with the operations; that he took the means of postponing it by advising his associates that there was danger of a police raid. Volney Davis, Harry Campbell and "Doc" Barker were nursed during their convalescent period by James Wilson, Lynone Burdette and Edna Murray. They suffered severe pain in their fingers and had to be fed by those attending them. The favorite "hang out" for the mob after their flight from Chicago was the Casino Club. Here the gang spent their money freely and enjoyed the fruits of their crime. Charles J. Fitzgerald, better known as "Old Fitz" or the "Old Man", was with other members of the gang in Toledo and enjoyed the recreation and entertainment at the Casino Club with them. Fitzgerald was popular among the members of the club and others who visited that place, as he would frequently "buy a beer and a whiskey for the house".

In June 1934 William Beav'er and Myrtle Eaton, as Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Orhoe, rented a cottage at Grand Forest Beach, Ohio. Likewise Edna Murray and Volney Davis took a cottage on Lake Erie near the cottage of William Beav'er and Myrtle Eaton, in an effort to avoid the company of other members of the gang, but this was unsuccessful, as various members congregated at these cottages. Discord arose among the various members and as a result, William Beav'er and Volney Davis, who were characterized as the malcontents of the gang, were given their share of the ransom money, which to the best information obtainable, was approximately between \$18,000 and \$20,000 each.

After securing his share of the ransom money, Volney Davis made a trip to Buffalo, New York, where he exchanged for unmarked currency a portion of his share of the ransom money. Davis after making this trip to Buffalo, secured a Ford truck, left Grand Forest Beach, Ohio and proceeded in the truck to Glasgow, Montana, where he was later joined by Edna Murray. Davis intended severing his connections with the Karpis-Barker gang forever and contemplated going into business at Glasgow, Montana with Corey Bales, with whom he had become acquainted while in Aurora, Illinois. At Glasgow, Montana, Davis and Bales leased a plot of land near the Fort Peck Dam and built thereon a night club which was also to be used as a gambling establishment. Volney Davis and Edna Murray enjoyed the free life of the west for only a short time, as they

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received information that Special Agents were conducting an investigation in the vicinity of Glasgow, Montana concerning them and they immediately fled to Kansas City, Missouri.

William Weaver, after securing his share of the ransom money in August, 1934, left the other members of the gang and proceeded, with Myrtle Eaton, to Allendale, Florida, where they took up residence on a small chicken farm.

Alvin Karpis also reasoned that if so many of the gang continued to associate together it would ultimately cause their apprehension, so he, with Dolores Delaney, moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where in early May of 1934 they rented an apartment, the location of which has never been determined. They were soon joined by Fred Barker and Paula Harmon, who on May 20, 1934 rented an apartment at 10515 Parkhurst Avenue, where they resided under the names of Mr. and Mrs. J. Earl Matterson. On June 8, 1934, Alvin Karpis and his moll, as Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Milgreh, rented a house at 18109 Flamingo Avenue, where they continued to live until July 8, 1934, on which latter date they rented a house at 3973 West 140th Street. On August 16, 1934 as Mr. and Mrs. J. Earl Matterson, Fred Barker and his woman began living at 4419 West 171st Street, Cleveland, Ohio.

Harry Sawyer after the kidnaping and release of Mr. Bremer continued to reside with his wife, Gladys, in St. Paul, Minnesota until April, 1934, when he fled with his wife to Las Vegas, Nevada to avoid prosecution in connection with the abduction of Mr. Bremer. Harry Sawyer had not received his share of the ransom money and therefore in June, 1934 he communicated with Alvin Karpis by letter at General Delivery, Cleveland, Ohio, and made arrangements to meet Karpis in Cleveland and thereafter did join other members of the gang in that city.

On or about August 21, 1934, Harry Campbell and Wynona Burdette left their cottage at Grand Forest Beach, Ohio and also moved into Cleveland, Ohio, where as Mr. and Mrs. George Kalcott they rented an apartment at 7009 Franklin Boulevard. "Doc" Barker also resided at this address with them. Harrison also associated with those members of the gang living in Cleveland, Ohio. Alvin Karpis, Fred Barker, Harry Campbell, Harry Sawyer, "Doc" Barker and William Harrison were enjoying their rest at Cleveland, Ohio, frequenting the Harvard Club, a notorious gambling establishment in Newburg Heights, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland, which was operated by James "Shimmy" Patton and Arthur W. Hebebrand. The gang in September of 1934 still possessed approximately \$100,000 of the original ransom money and to avoid detection, efforts were being made by them to exchange the ransom money for money which could not be detected by the serial numbers. William Harrison and Harry Sawyer were designated as the emissaries

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the mob to proceed to Miami, Florida and make arrangements for this exchange and on September 1, 1934, Sawyer and Harrison were at the El Comodoro Hotel in Miami, Florida.

Four days later, on September 5, 1934, the tranquillity enjoyed by those who remained in Cleveland, Ohio was materially disturbed, for on that date Wynona Burdette, Gladys Sawyer and Paula Harmon visited the bar in the Cleveland Hotel at Cleveland, Ohio, where they indulged heavily in intoxicating liquors. They became boisterous and as a result they were arrested by the Cleveland, Ohio Police Department on charges of being drunk and disorderly. They were taken from the hotel screaming, fearing that their identities would become known. Special Agents learned of the arrest of the women and identified them as being associates of the Karpis-Barker gang. Again it was time for the remaining members of the gang in Cleveland to move. Dolores Delaney was instructed by Alvin Karpis to immediately proceed to Toledo, Ohio and register at the Algec Hotel. At this place the Delaney woman received further instruction from Karpis to proceed to Chicago, Illinois. Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis followed and thereafter Karpis met Dolores Delaney in Chicago and Fred Barker met his mother and the next place of refuge was Miami, Florida. Special Agents, after the identifications of the women were made, conducted an investigation at the various residences which had been occupied by the gangsters, but found that they had fled. Paula Harmon, Wynona Burdette and Gladys Sawyer, after being questioned concerning the wanderings of the gang, were released. Gladys Sawyer returned to her home in St. Paul, but later rejoined her husband and proceeded to the State of Mississippi. After the release of Wynona Burdette, she proceeded to the home of her sister in Tulsa, Oklahoma and later to the home of another sister near Hominy, Oklahoma. Wynona had vowed that she was through with gangsters and their activities. She expressed a hope that she could again secure a position in her native state and remain there as a law-abiding citizen. Paula Harmon, upon being discharged from custody, returned to her home at Port Arthur, Texas, later to be committed to a state hospital for mental disorders. She thereafter at no time associated with other members of the mob.

William Harrison and Harry Sawyer had, in the meantime, started negotiations with Cassius McDonald to make further exchanges of the ransom money. Cassius McDonald, a man of fifty years of age, for twenty-five years had engaged in gambling activities in Chicago, Detroit and Havana, Cuba. He maintained a residence at Trembley Road and Lake St. Clair, Detroit, Michigan, where he entertained many prominent politicians. For ten years, McDonald had spent a considerable portion of his time in Cuba, as a result of which he gained control of the gambling activities in Havana. On September 5, 1934, McDonald traveled by air to Havana, Cuba, where he contacted a brokerage firm, stating to the officials of that firm that he had a quantity of small denomination American bills with which he desired to purchase Cuban gold. McDonald introduced himself to the brokerage firm as Mr. O'Brien. McDonald exchanged \$18,000 of the ransom money and received \$14,000 in Cuban gold in exchange.

The following day McDonald went to the National City Bank in Havana, Cuba, where arrangements were made for the sale of the Cuban gold through that bank and McDonald received fourteen one thousand dollar bills in exchange therefor. Later, on September 10, 1934, McDonald under the name O'Brien again contacted the brokerage firm and made arrangements to exchange \$72,000 in ransom money for larger bills. The representatives of the brokerage firm were Rene Bolivar and Juan Ruiz and on the occasion of his second visit to the firm, McDonald invited Bolivar and Ruiz to his room at the National Hotel, at which place they observed William J. Harrison. McDonald while in the hotel room produced a newspaper wrapped package which contained \$72,000 in small bills. Bolivar thereafter went to the Chase National Bank in Havana, Cuba with McDonald and the money was exchanged for one thousand dollar bills. The Chase National Bank charged a discount of one-fourth of one per cent on the transaction.

Alvin Karpis and Dolores Delaney on September 20, 1934 registered at the El Comodoro Hotel in Miami, Florida as Mr. and Mrs. J. Wagner of Detroit, Michigan, but on the following day they checked out of this hotel and took refuge in Havana, Cuba. At Havana, Cuba they visited the Park View Hotel and presented to the Manager, Nathaniel Heller, a card signed by Joe Adams, the Manager of the El Comodoro Hotel, which card bore the message "this man is all right". Karpis believed that in Cuba he would find relaxation from the pressing search being conducted by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Through the efforts of Nathaniel Heller, Karpis rented a cottage at Veradero Beach in Cuba and he and Dolores Delaney once more "settled down".

Other members of the Karpis-Barker gang who during September 1934 registered at the El Comodoro Hotel were Harry Campbell, Fred and Kate Barker. Ma Barker appeared at the hotel on September 30, 1934 and registered as Mrs. G. E. Ryan of South Bend, Indiana. Harry Campbell, as G. L. Summers, and Fred Barker, as T. C. Blackburn, of St. Charles, Illinois, registered at the hotel on September 29, 1934 and remained there until November 7, 1934, as did Ma Barker. During the residence of Fred Barker at the El Comodoro Hotel he expressed a desire to Joe Adams, the Manager, that he would like to have a cottage where he and his mother could reside and enjoy a quiet life. Joe Adams had a friend who owned a cottage which would supply the need of Fred Barker. Adams, through this friend, secured the rental of a cottage for Fred Barker and his mother which was located on Lake Weir at Oklawaha, Florida. After this cottage was rented by Fred Barker, he and his mother left the El Comodoro Hotel on November 7, 1934 and took up their residence on Lake Weir.

Harry Campbell became lonesome for Wynona Burdette and a few days before Thanksgiving of 1934 he drove to Oklahoma to the home of Wynona Burdett's sister at Hominy, Oklahoma and there rejoined Wynona. Wynona cast aside the resolution she had previously made and returned with Campbell to the State of

Florida, where they began living with Fred Barker and his mother on Lake Weir. Karpis, in the meantime, with Dolores Delaney, had continued to reside in Havana, Cuba, but in the early part of December 1934, Karpis again decided it was best to move. His photograph had appeared in the Havana newspapers and he feared someone might recognize him. The couple returned to Miami, Florida. Again Joe Adams came to the assistance of a member of the gang and assisted Dolores Delaney and Karpis in renting a house at 1121 85th Street, N.E., Miami, Florida, where the couple resided as Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Green.

While these activities were taking place in Miami, Florida and Havana, Cuba, James Wilson had not seen his uncle, Dr. Moran, for several weeks, so he left Toledo, Ohio and proceeded to Chicago, Illinois and then to Denver, Colorado, where on September 4, 1934 he surrendered to the Denver Field Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"Doc" Barker, prior to going to Toledo, Ohio in April 1934 had been termed by his associates as a woman hater, except for his frequent visits to houses of prostitution. At Toledo, Ohio "Doc" Barker became infatuated with Mildred Kuhlman, who was a friend of Madeline Angus, the wife of Ted Angus, who had afforded the gang protection. Mildred was also friendly with Thelma and Rene Holst, sisters of Madeline Angus. After the gang had left the vicinity of Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio, "Doc" Barker persuaded Mildred Kuhlman with promises of many luxuries to return with him to Chicago, Illinois. Through the investigative efforts of Special Agents it was established that Mildred Kuhlman on December 11, 1934 registered at the Morrison Hotel in Chicago, Illinois. An immediate surveillance was instituted of this woman and it disclosed that Mildred Kuhlman resided at 432 Surf Street, Chicago, Illinois; that she was friendly and almost in constant company with a woman known as Patricia Longuest. The investigation further disclosed that "Doc" Barker was residing with the Kuhlman woman at the Surf Street address and that "Doc" and Mildred were associating with William Harrison and Russell Gibson in Chicago. It was also ascertained that in keeping with the usual practice, Harrison had rented an apartment at 3920 Pine Grove Avenue in Chicago as J.B. Bolton and Special Agents immediately determined that Russell Gibson and "Doc" Barker frequented the place.

The apprehension of these fugitives was delayed, as the information which had been obtained throughout the course of the investigation of the Bremer kidnaping had indicated that members of the gang usually resided in the same general vicinity and it was not until investigation definitely disclosed that Alvin Karpis and other members of the gang were not associating with "Doc" Barker in Chicago that action was taken to apprehend those fugitives who had been located. On the night of January 8, 1935 the apartment at 3920 Pine Grove Avenue was surrounded. Other Special Agents covered the address at 432 Surf Street and at about 6:50 P.M. on that date "Doc" Barker and Mildred

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Kuhlman left the premises and were taken into custody by Special Agents. "Doc" Barker had no opportunity to resist. An immediate search of the apartment which had been occupied by "Doc" Barker and Mildred Kuhlman revealed a large black leather case in which there was contained a Thompson submachine gun from which the serial number had been removed. The Technical Laboratory of the Federal Bureau of Investigation subsequently restored this number and it was found that it was the machine gun which had been stolen by members of the Karpis-Barker gang at the time they staged the pay roll robbery in South St. Paul on August 30, 1933 and killed a policeman.

At about 10:45 P.M. on January 8, 1935 a Special Agent gave the command to the occupants at 3920 Pine Grove Avenue to surrender. Clara Gibson, wife of Russell Gibson, Ruth Heidt, the ex-wife of William J. Harrison, and Bryan Bolton complied with this command. Ignoring the plea of his wife who frantically begged him to surrender, Russell Gibson chose to fight it out. He equipped himself with a bulletproof vest, a .32 Caliber Colt automatic pistol and a Browning automatic rifle and endeavored to force an escape through the rear door of the apartment. Gibson cautiously opened the door, but upon observing a Special Agent guarding the entrance, Gibson raised the automatic rifle and fired. His aim was poor. The Special Agent returned the fire and Gibson fell at the foot of the stairway mortally wounded. Gibson died a few hours later in a hospital in Chicago, Illinois with a curse on his lips for all law enforcement officers. A few days later, ironically on his birthday, Gibson was buried in a cemetery at Chicago, Illinois. There was no large gangster funeral, but only a few of his nearest relatives attended. There were no friends as pallbearers, but the employees of the cemetery due to the cold wind which was blowing hurried the casket which contained the remains of Russell Gibson from the hearse to the burial place.

Upon entering the apartment at 3920 Pine Grove Avenue, Special Agents found a small arsenal. Among the guns found were the following:

- 1 .32 Colt automatic pistol #481720
- 1 .38 police positive revolver #275652
- 2 Browning 30.06 automatic rifles
- 1 Auto burglar 20 gauge Ithaca Gun Company Shotgun #561601
- 1 .351 rifle fitted with front machine gun grip and Cutts compensator

together with a large quantity of ammunition. A map was found in the effects of "Doc" Barker, on which map appeared a penciled circle around the town of Ocala, Florida, which circle encompassed the territory in which Lake Weir was located. Other information had been obtained by Special Agents that in the vicinity of where the other members of the gang were hiding out the residents talked of an alligator known as "Old Joe". In possession of this valuable

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information, Special Agents began an extensive investigation in the vicinity of Ocala and Oklawaha, Florida, which investigation disclosed that Fred Barker and his mother were residing in a cottage located on Lake Weir, this being the cottage which had been secured for them through the efforts of Joe Adams. It was further learned that a few days prior to the location of this cottage, Harry Campbell and Wynona Burdette had been visitors there. At about 5:30 o'clock on the morning of January 16, 1936 Special Agents surrounded the Barker "hang out" and the Special Agent in Charge approached the house, demanding the occupants to surrender. After a period of approximately fifteen minutes, no answer was received and the Special Agent in Charge commanded that Kate and Fred Barker surrender. For a few minutes there was no answer, then a voice was heard to say "all right go ahead". The Special Agents interpreted this remark as meaning that Kate and Fred Barker were going to surrender, but it had a far different meaning, for the answer to the Special Agent's last command was a blast of machine gun fire from the house. The machine gun fire was answered by tear gas bombs, rifle fire and machine gun fire from weapons in the hands of the Special Agents. Kate Barker battled until death and when the house was entered later in the morning, Special Agents found the bodies of Fred Barker and Kate Barker. A .45 caliber automatic pistol was found near the body of Fred Barker and a machine gun lay at Ma Barker's left hand. A search of the house after the battle had ceased disclosed \$14,000 in \$1,000 bills and investigation revealed that these \$1,000 bills were a part of those which had been obtained by Cassius McDonald in Havana, Cuba in exchange for Bremer ransom money. There was also found other currency of smaller denominations totaling approximately \$293.00.

A small arsenal was located in the house which consisted of -

- 2 Thompson submachine guns
- 1 Browning .12 gauge automatic shotgun
- 1 Remington .12 gauge pump shotgun
- 5 .45 caliber automatic pistols
- 1 .33 caliber Winchester rifle and
- 1 .380 caliber Colt automatic pistol,

together with machine gun drums, automatic pistol clips and a quantity of ammunition.

There was also found in the house a letter signed by "B. L. Barnes" which was a letter to Fred Barker from his brother "Doc". This letter read as follows:

"Hello ever one how is that old sunshine down there fine I hope. Boy it is not so hot up here, for we are having some winter. I bet you and Buff are not catching no fish now for I think I caught them all when I was down there. I took care of that

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Buigness for you Boys it was do : Just as good as if you had did it your self. I am just like the standard oil always at your service ha ha. Tell, Bo, you know the Boy with the rosy cheek that Moxy is up here looking for him and if it is alright to send him down. I have not seen him yet I have been busy on that other he was pretty hard to locate. But will see him right away, and see if he wants come down there. Tell mother that deer was mighty fine and I said hello and her and the squaw had better not let you Bums Beat them in catching fish ha ha well I will close for this time as ever your Big Bud

B. L. Barnes\*

This letter became significant in explaining the disappearance of one member of the gang.

Kate and Fred Barker were deserted in death by their companions and their bodies remained unburied from January 18, 1935 until October 1, 1935. On the latter date Kate and her son Fred were buried at an unknown, unkept countryside graveyard, full of undergrowth and weeds known as the Williams Cemetery, Welch, Oklahoma. The services were attended by a small number of relatives and curious onlookers. It was estimated that approximately twenty-five people attended the services which included six undertakers. The funeral sermon was preached to the living, with no mention being made of the deceased. The minister invoked the blessings of the Diety upon the surviving members of the family. The minister qualified the request for such blessings with the statement "If it be Thy will". The bodies were buried next to the grave of Herman Barker, Ma's eldest son.

At the time the shooting took place at Oklawaha, Florida, Alvin Karpis and Dolores Delaney resided in a house on 85th Street in Miami, Florida. They had as visitors Harry Campbell and Wynona Burdette, who had left the house occupied by Fred Barker and his mother at Oklawaha, Florida for a trip to Miami on January 13, 1935. Wynona Burdette was to assist Dolores Delaney, as the latter was an expectant mother. The news of the death of Fred and Kate Barker reached Miami, Florida on the evening of January 18, 1935. It was time for Karpis and Campbell to renew their flight. Plans for the departure were made hurriedly and the gang's new errand boy, an orchestra leader by the name of Henry "Duke" Randall, was dispatched to the El Comodoro Hotel, where \$1,200 was secured for Karpis from Joe Adams, who had been holding the same for the fugitive. The night of January 18, 1935 found Dolores Delaney and Wynona Burdette aboard a train bound for Atlantic City, New Jersey. They carried with them as credentials a note signed by "Duke" Randall addressed to William A. Morley, part owner of the Danmark Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey. The message requested Morley to take care of his friend Mrs. Graham and to see that she obtained a good

doctor and good care. The women arrived at Atlantic City, New Jersey about 2:00 o'clock on the afternoon of January 18, 1935 and registered at the Danmor Hotel as Mrs. A. B. Graham and sister of Macon, Georgia. At about 1:00 o'clock in the morning the following day Karpis and Campbell appeared at the Danmore Hotel driving a Buick sedan bearing Florida license D-5-508. Karpis registered at the hotel as R. S. Carson and Campbell used the name of G. C. Cameron. Special Agents had learned of the license number of the car in the possession of Karpis and a description of the car and the desperate character of its occupants were broadcast. Early on the morning of January 20, 1935 a police officer located the car in the Coast Garage at Atlantic City, New Jersey and this officer, with two fellow officers, of the Atlantic City Police Department, then proceeded to the Danmor Hotel to investigate. The officers approached the third floor of the hotel with drawn guns. In the hallway they found a frightened man dressed only in his underwear and when questioned by the officers he stated that he would be glad to have the man who was in the room in which the officers were interested to come out in the hallway. The ruse worked. Karpis dashed into Campbell's room and they came out together firing a machine gun and after an exchange of shots with the officers, Karpis and Campbell succeeded in perfecting their escape. Dolores Delaney was wounded in the leg. She and Lynona Burdette succeeded in escaping from the hotel and crouched in the alley, awaiting the arrival of Karpis and Campbell to rescue them. However, during the period of time they were waiting for the fugitives they deliberated upon the safety of their men and it was decided that to continue the flight with Karpis and Campbell at this time, due to the condition of Dolores Delaney, would only hinder their flight. The women remained in the alley until taken into custody by officers.

After escaping from the hotel, Karpis and Campbell succeeded in stealing a Pontiac coach from a local garage and in this car they fled from Atlantic City, New Jersey, after unsuccessful efforts to locate their women. They abandoned the stolen Pontiac car near Quakertown, Pennsylvania and at about midnight on January 20, 1935 the fugitives kidnapped Dr. Horace H. Hunsicker of Allentown, Pennsylvania and at the point of a machine gun forced the doctor to drive them in his car from a point near Sellersville, Pennsylvania to Guilford Center, Ohio, at which place Dr. Hunsicker was forced to enter the Guilford Center Grace Hall, where he was bound, gagged and abandoned. Karpis and Campbell fled on to Toledo, Ohio in the doctor's car and later disposed of it by leaving the car at a point near LaSalle, Michigan.

A few days subsequent to the arrest of "Doc" Barker, Special Agents learned that the hide-out in which Mr. Bremer had been held was located at Bensenville, Illinois. Simultaneously with the raid which had been conducted at Oklawaha, Florida which resulted in the deaths of Fred and Ma Barker, Special Agents raided the address at 180 May Street, Bensenville, Illinois. The building at this address was owned by Herman Baucke and it was found that a former tenant who had occupied a portion of this building in January and February of 1934 had moved several months prior to the raid.

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On January 19, 1935 Mr. Bremer positively identified the portion of the building which had formerly been occupied by Harold Alderton as being the house in which he had been held a kidnapped victim. Mr. Bremer was successful in identifying the design of the wallpaper in the room in which he was held. Mr. Bremer was also successful in identifying the crack in the wallpaper in a corner of the room, the position of the window and height of the window sill, the electric light drop, the step between the living room and the bedroom and the broken toilet handle. It was also found that the bedroom in which Mr. Bremer had been held was situated as had previously been described by him. The entrance to the house was through the kitchen, as had been related by Mr. Bremer. There was a bedroom adjoining the room in which he was held and the wooden floor in the house answered the description as previously obtained from the victim of the kidnapping.

Investigation disclosed that Elmer Farmer, the tavern owner at Bensenville, Illinois who had been a close associate and harborer of the Karpis-Barker gang, had secured the use of Alderton's home for the use of the kidnapers at the request of Fred Goetz. It was ascertained that in December of 1934 Fred Goetz and Alvin Karpis appeared at Bensenville and examined the prospective hide-out. At that time they agreed to pay Harold Alderton \$1,000 for the use of his home and Farmer likewise was to receive \$1,000 for his services in connection with the kidnapping of Mr. Bremer. Elmer Farmer was arrested at Bensenville, Illinois on the morning of January 18, 1935 and confessed that he participated in the conspiracy to kidnap Mr. Bremer.

Harold Alderton, an ex-bootlegger, was arrested on January 17, 1935 by Special Agents at Marion, Indiana and likewise admitted that Mr. Bremer had been held in his home and that he had received \$1,000 for his services in connection with the kidnapping.

Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation after finding that Volney Davis and Edna Murray had discontinued their operations in Glasgow, Montana, continued their investigation to locate these fugitives, which investigation disclosed that Volney Davis and Edna Murray were in association with Jess Doyle and Doris O'Connor in Kansas City, Missouri. Volney and Edna in February of 1935 were residing at 3028 Baltimore Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri, under the names of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Harper. Jess Doyle and his paramour, Doris O'Connor had left the other members of the Karpis-Barker gang at St. Paul, Minnesota on January 16, 1934 and together with Eddie and Bessie Green proceeded to Topeka, Kansas. Later, after a visit to Cardin, Oklahoma to visit with Doris O'Connor's relatives, they moved to Aurora, Illinois in May, 1934, at the request of Edna Murray, who as previously related, was the sister of Doris O'Connor. They remained in Aurora until June 1934 and then returned to Kansas City, Missouri, residing

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*Kansas City*

at 4112 Locust Street. Prior to determining the exact address of Edna Murray and Volney Davis in Kansas City, Special Agents ascertained that Davis had stored in a local garage at Kansas City, Missouri, a Pontiac car. A surveillance was maintained of this car, and Volney Davis was captured at ~~Shawnee~~, Missouri on February 6, 1935, and immediately arrangements were made to remove him from Kansas City. En route to Chicago, Illinois, the airplane in which the Agents with their prisoner were travelling made a forced landing near Yorkville, Illinois, on the night of February 7, 1935, and during the confusion which resulted, Davis effected his escape. He remained at liberty until he was recaptured at Chicago, Illinois, on June 1, 1935. Davis was questioned concerning a \$100 counterfeit bill which was removed from his person subsequent to his capture in Kansas City, Missouri. He claimed that the bill came from Walter "Irish" O'Malley, who was being sought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in connection with the kidnaping of August Luer of Alton, Illinois. Davis maintained that he did not pass counterfeit money, but merely carried it with him so that in the event he was arrested by officers of the law, he could tender them the \$100 bill in return for his liberty, believing that he could effect his escape before the officer who had accepted the bribe would discover the bill was counterfeit. Davis never offered the counterfeit bill to the Special Agents who apprehended him.

Volney Davis after his capture outwardly became penitent and in a moment of his remorse he wrote the following letter to his parents

"My dear Mother, Father and Sisters: June 3, 1935.

At last I am in a position where I can write to you all again. And I am sure glad that I can for it has been awful to be running around over the country and not being able to write to the only ones in this world that really loves me. I am here in jail and have entered a plea of guilty to conspiracy in this case, I guess you have read about it in the papers. I will be sentenced on Friday this week, I don't know what I will get but I expect it will be a life sentence. I guess I will be sent to the government prison out in California, but before I go there I will be held for thirty days in some prison here, but I won't be here long enough time for you to come to see me. But just as soon as I am where you can have time to come to see me I will let you know when and where to come. I have some property and some money I want to turn over to you but if it is so you can I want you to bring Ruby with you as there will be quite a bit of running around and she can do it better than you.

I would like to see all of you before I go away for good but I say be impossible as it will cost too much. Tell all the kids hello for me and tell the boys to take a lesson from my experience and never touch anything that don't belong to them, for a man can get more enjoyment out of ten dollars he has earned

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honestly than he can a thousand got dishonestly. I know from sad experience. I am telling you this to tell them because it may do some good and I know my life has been spared for some reason in this world and if I can keep some young boys from going wrong I have accomplished something in this world. I would give anything if I could start over again, for I know I could be successful in business if I was free for I have been fairly successful in business transactions while I have been dodging the law and I know if I had been free to have taken care of them like any other citizen I could have done much better.

Papa and Mamie I don't want you all to feel too bad about this for after all you will know where I am at night when you go to sleep and I won't be in danger of being killed any moment. And I promise if such a thing should happen as I am ever a free man again I will make an honest living regardless of how little I can earn. And I will be a model prisoner where ever I go and for ever length of time I get. I have been treated good here and am well in body. I hope wherever I go that I get work that won't be injurious to my health. Well, I don't know much more to write but I will sure write over time I get a chance, and try to make up for the last time.

Tell Uncle Bert hello and I sure would like to see him.

I am going to write a letter to Bertha soon and Irene. I think I know their address, but in case I don't you tell them you heard from me.

Be sure to tell me how Bushah is and when you saw her last. I sure do hope she gets well.

Gussie Mildred is O.K. I hope so. Well, I will close. With all my love to you all, as ever,

Volney Davis

After the arrest of Volney Davis, Edna Murray and Jess Doyle sought refuge at Pittsburg, Kansas, where on February 7, 1935, Doyle was located by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with the cooperation of the Police Department at Pittsburg, Kansas and engaged Doyle in a gun battle. Doyle escaped, but during the day he appeared at Girard, Kansas, where he surrendered to the Sheriff.

On this same date, Edna Murray was taken into custody by Special Agents, together with two individuals who had harbored her, Harry C. Stanley, her brother, and his wife, Mary Stanley. Harry C. Stanley was subsequently convicted on the charge of harboring a fugitive from justice in Federal Court in the District of Kansas and was sentenced on March 13, 1935, to serve six months in the Sedgewick County Jail at Wichita, Kansas and was also fined \$1,000. Mary Stanley, on the same date, was given a five year suspended sentence on the same charge.

The extensive investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation revealed that Alvin Karpis, "Doc" Barker, Harry Campbell, William Weaver, Fred Goetz, Fred Barker and Velney Lewis were in St. Paul, Minnesota the morning of Mr. Bremer's abduction and eyewitnesses stated that five or six men using two automobiles were at the corner of Lexington and Goodrich Avenue at the time the kidnapping took place. Alvin Karpis and Harry Campbell subsequently admitted, after their capture, that they were present the morning when Mr. Bremer was abducted. It was further ascertained that Mr. Bremer had been transported to the hide-out at Hennepinville, Illinois by Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell, William Weaver and "Doc" Barker, who also acted as guards over Mr. Bremer while the latter was being held; that Ryan Tolton, William Harrison, Elmer Turner and Harold Alderton had taken care of the needs of the guards and their prisoner by supplying them with food, whiskey and by running other errands. Information was also obtained by the Special Agents that the guards at the hide-out had complained at the delay in the collection of the ransom money and that considerable liquor had been consumed, especially by William Weaver and Harry Campbell. The hoodlums had arguments among themselves and several days before the release of Mr. Bremer one member of the gang was ordered to leave the hide-out. This member was William Weaver, who had become tired of his cramped quarters and the delay in the payment of the ransom money, as a result of which

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he spent too much time strolling up and down in the alley adjacent to the hide-out. The rest of the gang feared detection if one of their number was observed outside of the hide-out house. "Doc" Barker endeavored to enliven the days by imitating the voice of a Mexican and, if possible, also to lead Mr. Bremer to believe that a foreigner was one of his guards. Karpis while at the hide-out studied maps and made charts; although it has never been definitely determined, it is believed that Karpis was compiling getaway charts, possibly for some future crime, or a chart which would be used in returning Mr. Bremer to Rochester, Minnesota. The gang kept machine guns in the hide-out to be used in the event law enforcement agencies discovered where Mr. Bremer was held.

There was returned at St. Paul, Minnesota on May 4, 1934 an indictment which charged Arthur R. Barker, Alvin Karpis, John J. McLaughlin, Sr., John J. McLaughlin, Jr., William E. Vidler, Phillip J. Delaney, "Slim", "Izzy", Frankie Wright, John Roe and Richard Roe with conspiracy to kidnap Mr. Bremer and transport him from St. Paul, Minnesota to the State of Illinois. Due to the results achieved by Special Agents during the course of the investigation, the Federal Grand Jury at St. Paul, Minnesota on January 22, 1935, returned indictments superseding the indictment returned on May 4, 1934. One of the new indictments charged Arthur R. Barker, Alvin Karpis, Volney Davis, Harry Campbell, Elmer Farmer, Harold Alderton, William Weaver, Harry Sawyer, William J. Harrison, Bryan Bolton, John Doe and Richard Roe with the kidnaping of Mr. Bremer and transporting him from St. Paul, Minnesota to Bensenville, Illinois. A second indictment was also returned on this date, naming in addition to those previously indicted, Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Oliver A. Berg, John J. McLaughlin, Edna Murray, Myrtle Eaton, James J. Wilson, Jess Doyle, William E. Vidler, Phillip J. Delaney and one "Whitey", who was later determined to be identical with Bruno Austin. This indictment charged the individuals named with conspiring with each other and with Fred Goetz, Fred Barker, Russell Gibson and Kate Barker to kidnap and transport in interstate commerce Edward George Bremer.

On April 15, 1935 the trial of Arthur R. Barker, Oliver A. Berg, Elmer Farmer, Harold Alderton, Jess Doyle, Edna Murray, Phillip Delaney, "Boss" McLaughlin, William Vidler, James Wilson and Bryan Bolton began in the Federal Courts Building at St. Paul, Minnesota before Federal Judge W. M. Joyce. Bryan Bolton at the beginning of the trial entered a plea of guilty, but sentence was deferred as to him until August 25, 1936, when he was sentenced to serve three years in prison for his complicity in the kidnaping. The Government, after the selection of the jury, began the introduction of evidence with Mr. Bremer as the first witness, who related the details of his kidnaping. Thereafter during the course of the trial, Alvin Karpis was identified as the purchaser of the flashlights. Over strenuous objections of defense counsel, the gasoline can which bore the fingerprint of "Doc" Barker was introduced into evidence. An employee of the Technical Laboratory of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

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qualified as an expert witness and in simple language which was capable of being understood by everyone, explained briefly the science of fingerprinting and declared that the possibility of the fingerprint found on the gasoline can being that of anyone other than "Doc" Barker would only be one chance in several billion and declared emphatically that the possibility of there being a duplication of fingerprints was so remote as to be out of the question entirely. On cross-examination defense counsel, which obviously were untutored in the science of fingerprinting, made no effort to get at the real questions involved in the fingerprint evidence, but made every effort to seize upon the ridiculous in an effort to confuse the minds of the jurors. These questions were capably explained by the witnesses and no question was left in the minds of the jurors as to the true identity of the fingerprint. "Doc" Barker sat through the proceedings in utter silence, glaring as the witnesses took the stand against him. The sharp criminal eyes of "Doc" Barker had no effect on the witnesses.

At the conclusion of the Government's case on May 6, 1935, the charges against Jess Doyle and Edna Murray were dismissed. Jess Doyle was later returned to the State of Nebraska, where he entered a plea of guilty at Fairbury, Nebraska on a charge that he participated in the robbery of the Fairbury National Bank on April 4, 1935. He was subsequently sentenced to serve ten years in the Nebraska State Penitentiary for this crime. Edna Murray was returned to the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri to complete the remainder of her twenty-five year sentence for highway robbery and she received an additional two year sentence on the charge of escaping from that institution.

Bruno Austin on May 6, 1935 was discharged from custody on the order of the Court, but only to be rearrested in Chicago and at that place on October 11, 1935 he was convicted of murder and sentenced to serve life imprisonment in the Illinois State Penitentiary.

During the course of the trial, Elmer Farmer on May 13, 1935 entered a plea of guilty to the conspiracy indictment and on June 7, 1935 was sentenced to serve twenty-five years' imprisonment. "Doc" Barker had no defense to offer and did not take the stand in his own behalf. The trial of the defendants who had not been dismissed or otherwise disposed of was concluded on May 16, 1935 and the jury began its deliberations. The money-changers during the course of presenting their defense had contended they did not know the money exchanged by them was Bremer ransom money and they nervously awaited the return of the jury. On May 17, 1935 the jury returned a verdict of guilty as to Arthur R. Barker, Oliver A. Berg, James J. Wilson, John J. McLaughlin, Sr. and Harold Alderton and on this same date "Doc" Barker and Oliver A. Berg were sentenced to serve life imprisonment. Vidler and Delaney were acquitted. On June 7, 1935 Harold Alderton received a sentence of twenty years' imprisonment. McLaughlin and Wilson were sentenced

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to serve five years each; McLaughlin died a few months later in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. Oliver A. Berg, after his conviction and sentence, was returned to the Illinois State Penitentiary to complete his sentence at that place and a Federal detainer was filed against him. Elmer Farmer, Harold Alderton and Arthur R. Barker were temporarily detained at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, and later were removed to the United States Penitentiary at Alcatraz, at which place they must serve their sentences.

James J. Wilson was ordered to serve his sentence at the United States Industrial Reformatory at Chillicothe, Ohio, but he was later transferred to the Northeastern Penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. After the arrest of Volney Davis at Chicago, Illinois on June 1, 1935, he was removed to St. Paul, Minnesota, where on June 3, 1935 he entered a plea of guilty to the indictment charging him with conspiracy to kidnap Mr. Bremer and was immediately sentenced to serve life imprisonment. Davis likewise was temporarily detained at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas and subsequently transferred to the United States Penitentiary at Alcatraz.

After the arrest of Myrona Burdette and Dolores Delaney at Atlantic City, New Jersey, they were temporarily removed to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where a son was born to Dolores Delaney. These women were subsequently removed to Miami, Florida, where on March 25, 1935 they entered pleas of guilty in the Federal Court to the charges of harboring a fugitive from justice, and misprision of a felony and on that same date each was sentenced to serve a five year term in the United States Detention Farm, Milan, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. John Karpavics, father and mother of Alvin Karpis, took custody of the son of Dolores Delaney, who was christened Raymond Alvin Karpavics.

The investigation continued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to locate the remaining fugitives in this case and on May 5, 1935 Harry Sawyer was apprehended by Special Agents at Pass Christian, Mississippi, a deputy sheriff and a Mississippi State Highway officer cooperating with the Agents in the apprehension. Sawyer, after the ransom negotiations in Miami, Florida and Havana, Cuba, joined his wife and together they proceeded to the Mississippi town, where Harry Sawyer was operating a drinking and gambling "joint" for colored persons. This created suspicion in the minds of the white citizens in this southern state and ultimately led to the identification and apprehension of Sawyer. This was not the first arrest which Harry Sawyer had experienced, as the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation show that on December 12, 1914 Sawyer was arrested on charges of breaking and entering the offices of the Standard Oil Company in Lincoln, Nebraska. On April 25,

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1915 he entered a plea of guilty and the court ordered him released on parole for a period of two years and Sawyer was subsequently dismissed from parole on September 25, 1917. Sawyer was again arrested on September 11, 1918 at St. Paul, Minnesota on charges of attempted grand larceny and was subsequently fined \$100.00. He was again arrested on January 2, 1920 on charges of robbery and was later turned over to the Police Department at Lincoln, Nebraska on charges of jumping a bond, after being arrested for auto theft. He was subsequently released under a \$1,000 bond, which was later forfeited. After the arrest of Harry Sawyer at Pass Christian, Mississippi, he was immediately removed to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was committed to the Ramsey County Jail in default of \$100,000 bond, to await trial on the charges of kidnaping Mr. Bremer.

William Beaver and Myrtle Eaton had successfully eluded the company of other members of the Karpis-Barker gang and had continued to enjoy their small chicken farm at Allendale, Florida, to which place they had fled after leaving Grand Forest Beach, Ohio. On Sunday morning, September 1, 1935, the house which was occupied by William Beaver and Myrtle Eaton at Allendale, Florida, was surrounded by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Beaver left the house early on this morning to get his Sunday newspapers and was confronted by Special Agents who took him into custody. Immediately thereafter, Myrtle Eaton was arrested in the house in which were found several firearms, including various small firearms and two shotguns. Special Agents also found that Beaver and Myrtle Eaton had in their custody a small boy who was known to the neighbors as Bobbie Osborne. The fugitives had obtained custody of this child from its mother and they were residing at Allendale, Florida as Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Osborne, posing as respectable citizens. Immediately after their capture, Myrtle Eaton and William Beaver were removed to St. Paul, Minnesota and committed to the Ramsey County Jail in default of bond.

On November 27, 1935 a new indictment was returned by the Federal Grand Jury at St. Paul, Minnesota and in addition to those individuals who had been previously indicted, Cassius McDonald was included as a defendant in the conspiracy. McDonald was arrested by Special Agents at Detroit, Michigan on September 26, 1935, after conclusive evidence had been obtained that McDonald exchanged the ransom money in Havana, Cuba, with full knowledge that it was the Bremer ransom money.

A second trial in the Bremer case was begun at St. Paul, Minnesota in Federal Court on January 6, 1936 and the defendants at this time who faced the bar of justice were William Beaver, Harry Sawyer and Cassius McDonald. Harry Sawyer was confident of acquittal, but admitted on the witness stand that he had harbored and associated with members of the Karpis-Barker gang for a number of years. William Beaver likewise denied his guilt and

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contended that he was being prosecuted only because he had associated with members of the Karpis-Barker gang. Cassius McDonald endeavored to persuade the jury that he did not know the money exchanged in Cuba was the Bremer ransom money. The evidence was clear to the jury and after a two weeks' trial, which concluded on January 24, 1936, a verdict of guilty was returned against all three defendants. On that same date William Weaver and Harry Sawyer were sentenced to serve life imprisonment and after being incarcerated in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas were transferred to Alcatraz. The sentence of Cassius McDonald was deferred until February 1, 1936, at which time he was sentenced to serve fifteen years in a Federal Penitentiary and soon was transferred to Alcatraz.

The conspiracy indictment which was pending against Myrtle Eaton was dismissed at St. Paul, Minnesota and on February 26, 1936, she was indicted at Tampa, Florida, charged with harboring William Weaver. She denied her guilt, but on June 3, 1936 at Jacksonville, Florida, Myrtle Eaton was found guilty by a jury. On June 10, 1936 she was sentenced to serve six months in jail and pay a fine of \$1,000.00.

After the death of Fred Barker, Ma Barker and Russell Gibson and the apprehension of other members of the Karpis-Barker gang, Karpis and Campbell in January of 1935 found the ranks of the once powerful mob depleted of gunmen who could assist in further depredations, which were considered necessary for the fugitives' existence. After their return to Toledo, Ohio in January of 1935, Karpis and Campbell were afforded protection and shelter by the members of the underworld with whom they had been in contact during the more prosperous days of the gang immediately subsequent to the abduction of Mr. Bremer and for several months thereafter. They likewise renewed their contacts in Cleveland, Ohio, from which place they had so hurriedly departed in September of 1934. Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation continued the investigation to locate the remaining fugitives and it was learned that one of the first recruits secured by Karpis and Campbell was Fred Hunter, of Leavittsburg, Ohio. It is not definitely known in what manner Hunter first became acquainted with Karpis and Campbell, but it appears that the acquaintanceship was made through mutual friends at the Harvard Club, Newburgh Heights, Ohio, who sent Karpis to the Hollyhock Night Club in Warren, Ohio in March, 1935, where he met Hunter.

Fred Hunter, an ex-convict, was born October 13, 1899 at Warren, Ohio and was one of a family of six children. Hunter had five brothers and one sister. The father of the family, George Hunter, made an unsuccessful effort to raise his children to be law-abiding citizens. Fred Hunter's mother died in 1910 and while the father worked daily as a blacksmith and boilermaker, least three of his sons began careers of crime. Fred Hunter, as Fred John Henderson, was first arrested by the Police Department, Toledo, Ohio, on June 5, 1920 for carrying a concealed weapon and in lieu of paying a \$200.00 fine and costs he was committed to the Lucas County Jail, Toledo, Ohio, on June 5, 1920 and a jail sentence. On October 28, 1922, Hunter was

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arrested by the Police Department at Akron, Ohio as a fugitive from justice from Warren, Ohio. He was thereafter convicted for larceny and possession of dynamite and on April 17, 1933 was received at the State Penitentiary, Columbus, Ohio to serve an indeterminate sentence of three to twenty-seven years.

William Hunter, another son of George Hunter, began his criminal career on July 31, 1919 when he burglarized a hardware store at Warren, Ohio and stole goods and merchandise valued at \$50.00. He pleaded guilty to this charge; was committed to the State Reformatory at Mansfield, Ohio. William Hunter thereafter was received at the State Penitentiary, Columbus, Ohio on June 2, 1926 to serve a one to fifteen year sentence for burglary and larceny. On April 26, 1932 William Hunter was fined \$150.00 and costs at Warren, Ohio for receiving and concealing stolen property. In lieu of paying this fine he served time in the County Jail at Warren, Ohio. On December 19, 1934 William Hunter was received at the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia, to serve two years for violation of the Internal Revenue Act.

Another brother, Albert, has also served a sentence at the Ohio State Reformatory, Mansfield, Ohio, for burglary.

Fred Hunter, prior to the time he became associated with Karpis and Campbell, was a gambler and also engaged to some extent in selling gambling paraphernalia. He was also a devotee of cockfighting.

Karpis and Campbell returned to the southwest for a second recruit by the name of John Brock, who came highly recommended due to his extensive criminal record which began on January 16, 1919 when he was received at the State Reformatory, Granite, Oklahoma, to serve a term of three years for grand larceny. The records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation reveal that Brock's second arrest occurred on July 15, 1922 when he was arrested by the Sheriff's Office at Hutchinson, Kansas for investigation. He was next arrested on October 1, 1924 as J. C. Greighton by the Sheriff's Office at Enid, Oklahoma, at which place he was arrested for investigation. Brock also was arrested on suspicion by the Sheriff's Office at Pawnee, Oklahoma as J. D. Adams on May 17, 1925. On January 19, 1930 as John Brock he was arrested as a vagrant by the Police Department at Tucson, Arizona and served twenty days in the City Jail. He was likewise arrested as a vagrant by the Police Department at Tulsa, Oklahoma on March 12, 1931 and fined \$19.00 and costs. On October 18, 1931 he was received at the State Penitentiary, McAlester, Oklahoma, to serve five years after committing an assault with intent to kill. During the time Brock was confined in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary he became acquainted with three of the criminals who later became prominent members of the Karpis-Barker gang - "Doc" Barker, Volney Davis and William Weaver.

In March of 1935 Karpis and Campbell proceeded to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where they contacted George "Burrhead" Keady, well-known associate of thieves and

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harborer of criminals. Campbell had previously associated with Keady at the time Campbell was characterized as an oil field petty thief and was committing crimes with Glen Leroy Wright and Jimmie Lawson, who later became well-known criminals in the southwest. This was prior to the time that Campbell graduated to "big time" crime. Keady recommended Brock to Karpis and Campbell as a man of ability and the introduction of Brock to them was consummated on a highway near Tulsa, Oklahoma and Brock agreed to "pull a job" with Karpis and Campbell. Brock was given instructions to meet Karpis and Campbell in Toledo, Ohio, from which place Brock was sent to the Harvard Club in Cleveland, Ohio on an errand for Alvin Karpis. He later rejoined his new associates in Toledo, Ohio and plans were formulated for another crime. In April of 1935 Karpis and Campbell disappeared for several days, leaving Brock in Cleveland. He became apprehensive that some misfortune had occurred to Karpis and Campbell and returned to his home at Tulsa, Oklahoma.

On April 24, 1935 a mail truck was robbed at Warren, Ohio by three heavily armed men and \$72,000 in loot, composed of currency and bonds, was obtained by the bandits. Thereafter, two well-known criminals, George Sargent and Anthony Labrzetta, were identified as two of the participants in the robbery of the mail truck. Sargent and Labrzetta denied their guilt, but were brought to trial. The jury convicted them after deliberating ten minutes. Each was sentenced to serve twenty-five years in a Federal penitentiary. The court granted Sargent and Labrzetta a new trial, but they were again convicted at their second trial. Subsequent investigation disclosed that the two convicted men were innocent of the crime and that Karpis and Campbell were the guilty parties.

Karpis and Campbell with new capital planned new crimes and through "Burrhead" Keady, sought to reestablish the Karpis-Barker gang and after the mail robbery they returned to Tulsa, Oklahoma and again contacted Keady and Brock. On September 5, 1935 Keady proceeded to the Oklahoma State Penitentiary and met a half-breed Indian by the name of Sam Coker at the prison gates, who on that date was paroled from the institution where he had been serving a thirty year sentence for bank robbery. It is said that Karpis and Campbell supplied the funds necessary to secure the release of Coker from the penitentiary. Coker was first received at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary on March 17, 1924 to serve a thirty year sentence for bank robbery and he received his first parole from that institution on January 11, 1931 and within a few weeks was returned to the institution as a parole violator. He escaped on February 24, 1931. On May 9, 1931 he was arrested by the Police Department at Saint Joseph, Missouri for investigation and on the 10th of the following month he was arrested by the Police Department at Tulsa, Oklahoma as a fugitive from the State Penitentiary. This arrest occurred at the time Fred Barker and Alvin Karpis were arrested at Tulsa, Oklahoma on June 10, 1931, charged with a jewel burglary. Coker was not as fortunate as Karpis and Fred Barker, as after this arrest he was returned to Okmulgee, Oklahoma to await trial for the jewel theft.

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Although he was not prosecuted for that crime, he was returned to the Oklahoma State Penitentiary on June 19, 1931 to complete his sentence for bank robbery. Coker remained confined in the institution until September 3, 1935, when he was again released on parole. Coker, after his release on parole from the penitentiary, proceeded with Keady to the latter's home in Tulsa, Oklahoma and the two of them began celebrating Coker's good fortune by consuming considerable quantities of liquor and two or three weeks thereafter Coker proceeded to Toledo, Ohio and joined Karpis and Campbell.

About the first of November 1935, Fred Hunter returned to Tulsa, Oklahoma and solicited the aid of John Brock in a new criminal venture which was being planned. Brock agreed to participate in the new crime and with Hunter traveled by train from Tulsa, Oklahoma to Cleveland, Ohio, arriving there on or about November 4, 1935. At Cleveland, Ohio Hunter and Brock parted, Hunter proceeding to Youngstown, Ohio, while Brock went to Toledo and registered in a local hotel. However, the following day he was joined at the latter place by Fred Hunter and the two of them proceeded to the Toledo hide-out of Karpis and Campbell, which place was a local house of prostitution.

On the afternoon of November 7, 1935 five bandits armed with two machine guns, a shotgun and automatic pistols held up Erie Train No. 622 at Garrettsville, Ohio, which was en route from Detroit, Michigan to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and there was stolen from the United States Mail \$34,000 in currency and several thousand dollars in securities. During the course of the robbery the train crew was intimidated and one of the robbers fired a shot into the mail car. After Special Agents received information concerning the "wild west" manner in which the robbery was perpetrated, the possibility that Karpis and Campbell were responsible for this crime was considered and investigation resulted in the identification of the fugitives wanted in the Bremer kidnapping as being two of the participants in the holdup of the mail train. Special Agents further learned by their investigation that after the robbery, Karpis, Campbell, Hunter, Brock and the fifth member of the bandit gang known as "Sam", retreated to a garage in Port Clinton, Ohio operated by one John Zetzer, an ex-convict. Here the loot was divided and the gang separated, Campbell and "Sam" going to Toledo, Ohio.

Karpis, Brock and Hunter had made elaborate plans for a "getaway". The former methods used by modern bandits in driving long distances in a fast automobile after the commission of a crime were too slow for Karpis, Hunter and Brock, so arrangements had been made through Zetzer, a pilot, for the use of an airplane. Early on the morning of November 8, 1935 the three mail train bandits boarded an airplane near Port Clinton, Ohio and with Zetzer as the pilot, flew to Hot Springs, Arkansas. Karpis and Hunter remained at Hot Springs while Brock returned to his home in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

During the course of the investigation conducted by Special Agents,

it was learned that on October 19, 1935 one Thomas J. Shaw had gone to the Universal Motor Company in Akron, Ohio for the purpose of buying a Ford automobile for cash and after making preliminary arrangements for the purchase of this car, Shaw proceeded to the vicinity of the Portage Hotel, where he was arrested as a suspicious person and approximately three hours later a local gambler called at the Akron Police Department and arranged for the release of Shaw on bond. Thereafter, on October 26, 1935, under the name of Carl Baker, the individual who had previously been arrested as Thomas J. Shaw purchased from the Knuckles Brown Motor Company, 1440 West 26th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, a Plymouth sedan. The eyewitnesses to the Garrettsville mail robbery obtained the license number of the automobile used by the bandits at that time and through this it was learned that the Plymouth sedan which had been purchased by Carl Baker was the car used in the robbery.

At the time Thomas J. Shaw was arrested by the Police Department at Akron, Ohio, his fingerprints were forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and they were identified as being identical with Milton Lett, who on November 2, 1933 had been arrested by the Police Department at Wichita, Kansas for vagrancy. The record further disclosed that Lett had been arrested for investigation by the Police Department at Coffeyville, Kansas on February 10, 1931 and on September 5, 1932; that he also had been again arrested by the Police Department at Coffeyville on November 6, 1935 and on November 7, 1935, the date of the mail robbery at Garrettsville, Ohio, Lett was confined in the County Jail at Yates Center, Kansas on a charge of robbery, for which he was not prosecuted. Prior to this time the Federal Bureau of Investigation had information that Milton Lett was an associate of Harry Campbell and that Lett had also been employed as a shillier at the Harvard Club at Newburgh Heights, Ohio, where members of the gang frequently spent their time.

After Campbell returned to Toledo, Ohio from Port Clinton, Ohio, he continued for the next several months to spend the majority of his time in Toledo. Campbell found refuge with Clara and Ed McGraw at a rooming house operated by them at 2011½ Adams Street. He also frequented the many taverns located in the vicinity of his place of refuge.

A short time after Karpis and Campbell returned to Toledo, Ohio subsequent to their escape from Atlantic City, New Jersey, Campbell met a girl by the name of Gertrude Billiter at the McGraw rooming house and thereafter, on May 29, 1935, Campbell, under the name of Clarence C. Miller, married Gertrude at Bowling Green, Ohio. Campbell, with his wife, frequented a tavern known as the Goulet's Grill, located at 2150½ Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio. Campbell also had as a companion at Goulet's Grill and other taverns in Toledo, Ohio and vicinity, the Sheriff of Lucas County, James O'Reilly. After the robbery of the mail train at Garrettsville, Ohio, Campbell returned to these associates. Sam Colver, at the time of the robbery of the train was ill in a

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hospital in Toledo, which prevented him from being a participant in that crime. He, however, continued his association with Campbell at Toledo, Ohio after the successful consummation of that robbery.

While Campbell was spending his time in Toledo, Ohio, Karpis and Hunter were enjoying the pleasures of the health resort at Hot Springs, Arkansas. Karpis also made a trip to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he engaged in his favorite pastime of fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. He also made a trip to the west coast of Florida for a similar purpose. Karpis after his retreat to Hot Springs, Arkansas also made infrequent trips to Cleveland, Toledo and Canton, Ohio.

On the afternoon of May 1, 1938, through investigative efforts of Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, it was determined that Alvin Karpis, with Fred Hunter, and his woman, Connie Morris, were located in Apartment 1, 3343 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, where Hunter maintained a residence under the name of Ed O'Hara. The apartment building in which Karpis and the others were located was surrounded by Special Agents at approximately 5:30 P.M. on May 1, 1938 and as the Special Agents were about to enter the fugitive's apartment building, Karpis and Hunter emerged, with the intention of entering a Plymouth coupe which was parked in front of the building. Special Agents commanded Karpis and Hunter to surrender and they complied peacefully. Subsequent to the apprehension of Karpis, it was learned he had maintained an apartment at 3300 Saint Charles Street, New Orleans, Louisiana and it was further learned that the raid on the apartment on Canal Street was timely, as Karpis claimed he was making preparations to go on another fishing trip. A search of the Plymouth coupe and the apartment in which Karpis and Hunter had been located revealed that Hunter and Karpis had been prepared to resist arrest if the opportunity was presented, as there were found a rifle, two .45 caliber automatic pistols and a .380 caliber pistol. Later, a Terraplane coupe, which had been used by Karpis, was located and it was found to contain a .22 caliber rifle, a .22 caliber automatic pistol and a .45 Colt automatic pistol. After the capture of Karpis, he was immediately removed to St. Paul, Minnesota and committed to the Ramsey County Jail in default of one half a million dollar bond, to await trial. Hunter was committed to the Federal Jail at New Orleans, Louisiana, to await prosecution on the charge of harboring Karpis.

The investigation was continued by Special Agents at Toledo, Ohio for the purpose of locating Harry Campbell and it was learned that Campbell, under the name of G. Miller, was residing in Apartment 1, 213½ Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio. It was further ascertained that Campbell was known in the vicinity as Robert or Bob Miller. At daybreak on May 7, 1938, Special Agents conducted a raid on this apartment and there apprehended Harry Campbell. A

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search of the apartment revealed that Campbell had concealed under a pillow on the bed in the room in which he was apprehended, a .45 caliber Colt automatic pistol which he did not have an opportunity to use.

On the same morning, Sam Coker was taken into custody by Special Agents in a private home a few blocks away from where Harry Campbell had been residing. Harry Campbell was removed to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was committed to the Ramsey County Jail in default of a \$200,000 bond, to await the disposition of his case, while Sam Coker was returned to the Oklahoma State Penitentiary at McAlester, Oklahoma on May 9, 1936 to complete his unexpired term for bank robbery. Harry Campbell did not elect to stand trial for the kidnaping of Mr. Bremer and on May 12, 1936 he entered a plea of guilty at St. Paul, Minnesota and on the same date was sentenced to serve life imprisonment.

Fred Hunter, after being indicted at New Orleans, Louisiana on May 27, 1936, entered a plea of guilty to the charge of harboring Alvin Karpis and was sentenced to serve two years in the United States Penitentiary at Atlanta, Georgia.

On July 27, 1936 Alvin Karpis entered a plea of guilty to the indictment charging him with the kidnaping of William A. Hamm, Jr. and he received a life sentence. Karpis and Campbell were temporarily committed to the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas and on August 5, 1936 were transferred to the island prison at Alcatraz, California, to remain there the rest of their lives.

During the course of the investigation to apprehend the various members of the Karpis Barker gang, Special Agents learned that William J. Harrison, who had been closely associated with the mob, had unwittingly communicated to other associates of the gang who were not in the inner circle certain information which it was felt should not have been divulged. Using a ruse, Harrison on the night of January 5, 1935 was lured by some of his companions to an abandoned barn in the vicinity of Ontarioville, Illinois. When he entered the barn, in the hope of effecting his mission, he was shot to death by several of his erstwhile associates. His body was then soaked with gasoline, placed in an appropriate position and the barn set on fire. The structure was completely demolished. On January 6, 1935 the charred outline of an apparently unidentified body of a human being was observed in the smoldering embers. The Sheriff's Office at Wheaton, Illinois made a search for identifying items left at the scene of the crime and an Elgin wrist watch and a gold linked bracelet were found beside the body. There was also found what remained of a pair of octagon shaped eyeglasses. In addition thereto, there were found a five gallon gasoline can and a crank for a Model A Ford automobile.

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Bureau of Investigation ascertained definitely that Harrison had been murdered by certain of his companions and that his body had been burned in an old barn to prevent identification. Special Agents secured from the Sheriff's Office at Waukegan, Illinois pertinent data concerning the wrist watch which had been found near the corpse. Systematic inquiry in the vicinity of Hammond, Indiana and Calumet City, Illinois where Harrison had spent considerable time, disclosed that on August 21, 1935 Harrison had a wrist watch repaired by a jeweler friend in Hammond, Indiana. The jeweler had scratched his repair number, C-833, on the inside of the case and this entry appeared on the case of the Elgin watch which had been found by the unidentified corpse at Ontarioville, Illinois on January 6, 1936.

The finding of the body of William J. Harrison gave significance to the letter which had been found at Oklawaha, Florida written by "Doc" Barker to his brother Fred and in which it was stated "I took care of that business for you Boys it was done just as good as if you had did it your self".

As for Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Special Agents ascertained that he was last seen, according to the best information available, at the Casino Club, Toledo, Ohio, during the latter part of July, 1934. Dr. Moran had been at the club with "Doc" Barker, Russell Gibson and other members of the gang and became quite intoxicated. His associates tried to quiet him and it is alleged that Dr. Moran made the remark "I have you guys in the palms of my hands". This statement apparently was the signing of his death warrant. He left the club with two of the gang and did not return. The present whereabouts of Dr. Moran is best determined by a remark Fred Barker made to a member of the mob - "Doc will do no more operating. The fishes probably have eat him up by now".

RECAPITULATION

Eighteen (18) persons have been convicted in connection with the abduction of Edward George Bremer and the following sentences have been imposed:

8 Life  
86 Years  
2 \$1,000 fines  
3 persons killed while resisting arrest  
2 persons murdered

The following persons were convicted:

Harold Alderton	20 years	6-7-55
Arthur K. Barker	Life	5-17-55
Oliver A. Berg	Life	5-17-55
Bryan Bolton	5 years	8-25-55
(to be served concurrently with a similar sentence imposed in connection with the abduction of William A. Hamm, Jr.)		
Wynona Burdette	5 years	5-25-55
Harry Campbell	Life	5-12-55
Volney Davis	Life	6- 7-55
Dolores Delaney	5 years	5-25-55
Myrtle Eaton	6 months and \$1,000 fine	6-10-55
Elmer Farmer	20 years	6- 7-55
Fred Hunter	2 years	5-27-55
Cassius McDonald	15 years	2- 1-55
John J. McLaughlin, Sr.	5 years	6- 7-55
(Died in prison)		
Harry Sawyer	Life	1-24-55
Harry C. Stanley	6 months and \$1,000 fine	5-12-55
Mary Stanley	5 years (suspended)	5-12-55
William Weaver	Life	1-24-55
James J. Wilson	5 years	6- 7-55

The following persons were killed while resisting arrest:

Fred Barker	1-16-55
Kate Barker	1-16-55
Russell Gibson	1- 8-55

The following persons were murdered by their own associates:

William J. Harrison - killed 1-5-55, identified 9-6-55	
Fred Goetz	killed 5-20-54

Dr. Joseph P. Moran disappeared the latter part of July, 1934 at Toledo, Ohio and his whereabouts since that date has been unknown. It is believed that he was murdered by his own associates.